



AGAWAM

Advertiser·News

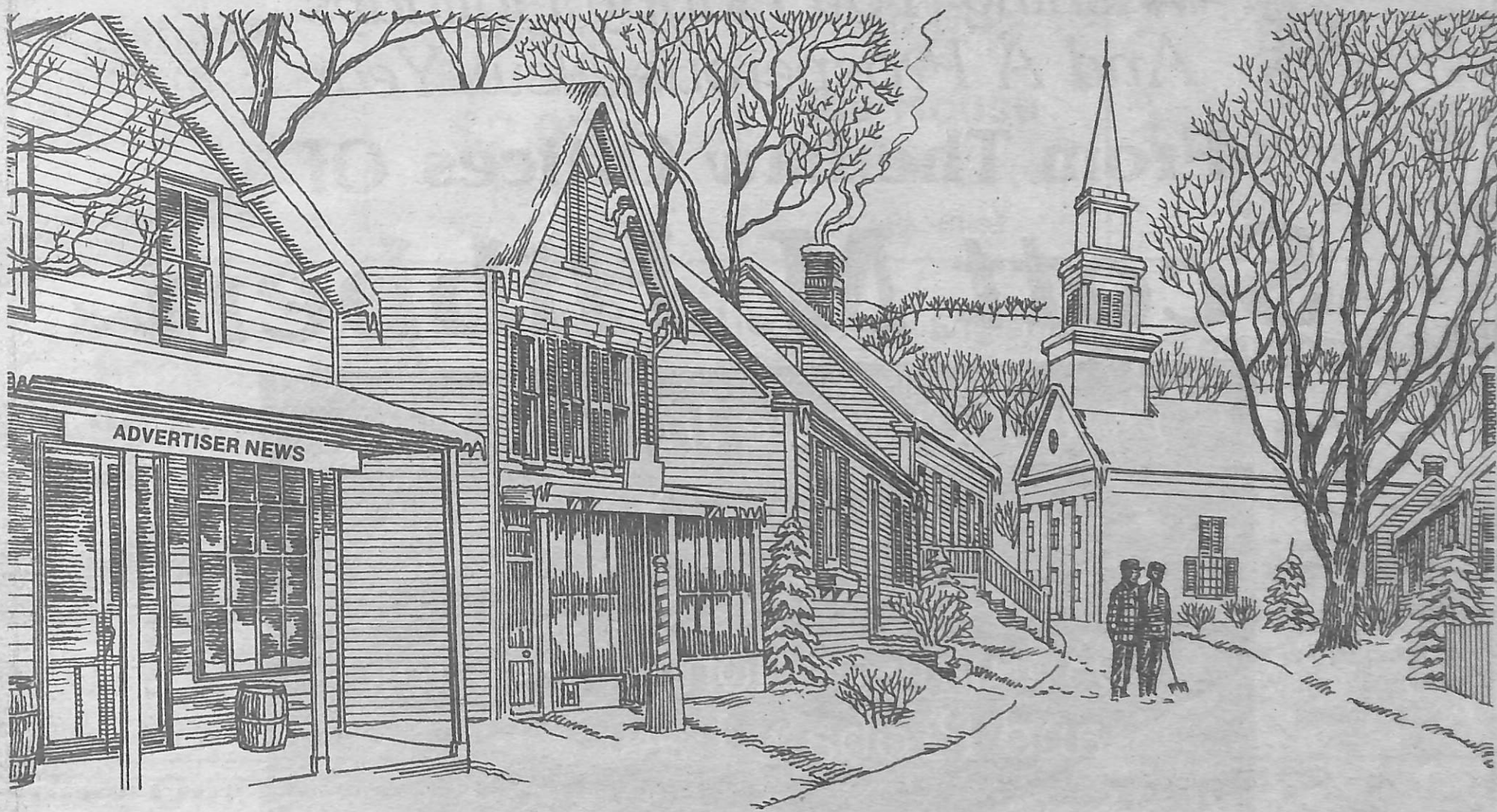
60¢

Volume XX Number 51

"Your Hometown Newspaper"

December 23, 1997

*Wishing you all the
blessings of this joyous
holiday season*



From the Sardella family...
Ric, Betsy, Kaitlin, Chase, and Camilla

Two Vying For Post As President Of Agawam Town Council

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

When it convenes for the first time on January 5th, the newly-elected Town Council will have the election of its officers as its first order of business.

Every January, the positions of council president and vice-president are up for grabs, and with the loss of current President Kent P. Servis, the field is wide open.

At presstime, only two candidates are actively campaigning for the council presidency, but several councilors have expressed an interest in the vice-presidency.

Councilor Nancy Thompson and Councilor-elect Donald Rheault, both former council presidents, want the council's top job. Although neither candidate would give a firm number of councilors pledged to their support, both have been talking to their fellow councilors in hopes of lining up the magic number of six votes.

Ms. Thompson expressed the hope that she would have enough votes, while Rheault said he felt confident at this point that he will have the votes to return to the job he held for seven of his 14 years as a former town councilor.

"I believe I can do the job and do it well," Ms. Thompson said. "Everyone has said they want to work together. There are a lot of new councilors, so it's going to be a whole new flavor this time around."

Rheault said he is the only candidate who can offer the experience needed to bring stability back to the council.

"I'll bring fairness and the ability to foster even debate," Rheault said. "That's what's needed now and an understanding of parliamentary procedure."

Many political insiders believe the election is all but sewn up. Each candidate is believed to have five firm votes, leaving the swing vote to Councilor-elect Robert Magovern.

Magovern said he has decided to support Rheault, thereby clinching the election for the returning councilor.

Magovern Seeks Unity On The Council...

"The only reason I'm going public with my vote is to try to get people on Nancy's side to switch over to Don's side so that we can get some unity on the council," Magovern said. "I don't want our first legislative act to be a confrontational act. I want to see our president elected on the first ballot so we can start out 1998 with a positive step."

But, one councilor believed to be 100 percent behind Rheault's candidacy told *The AAN* he is on the fence post right now and is giving serious consideration to both candidates.

No stranger to the political hot seat, Town Councilor Dennis Perry could find himself once again in the position of having his vote counted before he gets the chance to cast it (as in the unsuccessful attempt to unseat Ms. Thompson from the council presidency in the spring of 1996).

Perry said he will be making his decision when his company shuts down between Christmas and New Year's Day, giving him more time to consider the issues.

According to Perry, both candidates have done a good job at the council's helm in the past.

"I'm not sure who is going to be the leader who can take the reins and set the tone for the controversial issues, like the payment in-lieu-of-tax agreement with Berkshire Power and the Mayor's plan to look for zoning reform as a whole package rather than a piecemeal approach," Perry said.

Council Vice-President Edward Caba said he would be open to Rheault's candidacy, although he hasn't made a firm commitment.

Citing irreconcilable differences with the positions she took while serving as council president, Caba said, "I know for sure I wouldn't be voting for Nancy Thompson."

Caba said he wants a council president who is dedicated to serving the council and who can work with the Mayor as a group, keeping in mind that the council has its own agenda and the Mayor has his own agenda.

Councilor Jill Simpson, who served as vice-president under Ms. Thompson, said, "I've told her I will give her my vote. I think she'll do a good job."

Mrs. Simpson urged taking personalities out of the picture and supporting whoever is elected. "That will make life a lot easier," Mrs. Simpson said.

Letellier Is Looking For A Strong Leader...

Like many of her fellow councilors, Councilor-elect Gina Letellier is looking for a strong leader who knows parliamentary procedure and the council's rules.

"The most important factor for me is someone who knows the rules and is not going to be looking for outside assistance in interpreting what the rules are. I don't want someone who needs a recess or who needs to check with the town counsel in making decisions. Our chair interprets our rules."

For Council-elect John Negrucci, leadership and knowledge of parliamentary procedure are important, but the biggest asset in a council president is the ability to work with the Mayor before controversies can erupt on the council floor.

"I want someone who can iron out problems in the Mayor's office," Negrucci said. "The worst thing is to try to iron things out on the council floor when they could have been resolved with a little conversation in the Mayor's office."

Although he has expressed support for Ms. Thompson, Negrucci said he did not want to make a commitment so far in advance. Like Magovern, Negrucci wants to see the council get behind one candidate.

"It behooves the councilors to find out if one of the candidates doesn't have enough votes. We should know that going into the vote, and I sincerely hope all of us will vote for the candidate who has the votes rather than keep going around and around on the balloting. We shouldn't be starting out with a faction like 6-5."

SEE PRESIDENT - Page 4...

Wishing You Happy Holidays And A Prosperous New Year From The Law Offices Of **Scott M. Hibbert**

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Castillo Rum
\$11.99
(1.75 Ltr.)

Canadian Mist
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(1.75 Ltr.)
* Net After Rebate



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\$10.99 Plus Dep.
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Pete's Wicked Winter Sampler
Michelob Winter Sampler Pack

Winter Brews In Stock

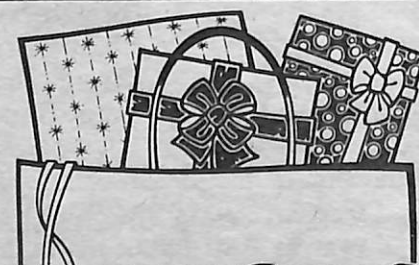
Sam Adams Winter Lager
Pete's Wicked Winter Brew
Michelob Winter Brew

Red Hook Winter Hook
Harpoon Winter Warmer
"Cider Jack" Spiced Cider

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Open Sunday, December 21st & December 28th — 12:00 Noon To 6:00 P.M.



Letters To The Editor

Middle School Band Outstanding At Concert

To The Editor:

I would like to commend Mr. Kenneth Longstreeth, band director of the Agawam Middle School, and the sixth grade band for a beautiful performance at their winter concert last Wednesday evening.

Mr. Longstreeth practices with each section of the band once a week during one of the children's scheduled classroom periods. Therefore, the children are responsible to make up any work missed. He also practices once a week on Friday mornings, at 7:30 a.m., for one hour before school starts with the entire band.

The time he has to work with these children is very limited. Under the superb direction of Mr. Longstreeth and the hard work and dedication of these children, it paid off. They were FANTASTIC!!

AnnMarie Hartmann
Feeding Hills
Band Parents

Open Pantry Says Beware Of Direct Mail Fundraiser

To The Editor:

It has come to the attention of the West Springfield-Agawam Open Pantry that there is a direct mail fundraising solicitation that is being delivered here in town that may be confusing to our supporters.

The Open Pantry in West Springfield wishes to emphasize that we are the only anti-poverty agency serving West Springfield, Agawam, Feeding Hills, and Southwick. Likewise, these are areas in which we concentrate our fundraising attempts.

The average resident is not aware that the West Springfield-Agawam Open Pantry is a totally separate entity from Open Pantry Community Services in Springfield. We help the needy west of the Connecticut River and they help people east of the river.

We are grateful they are there to fill the need in their area, but we are concerned when they refer to themselves as the "greater Springfield" anti-hunger agency. Truth be told, they would turn away the residents from our area.

Yet they are blanketing our area with a direct mail solicitation which can easily mislead the prospective donors. In the interest of being true to the intent of the donor, we wish to make clear the corporate and geographic distinctions between the two Open Pantries.

Poverty is brutal. The people who fight poverty should support one another in their attempts to minister to their areas.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Cummings
Executive Director

West Springfield-Agawam Open Pantry

Check our classified

Fire Wise...

by Fire Chief David Pisano
Juvenile Firesetters

Estimates show that well over half the incendiary fires in larger municipalities are caused by children under the age of 18. In fact, many are younger. Boys are more likely than girls to be the culprits.

Unfortunately, simple curiosity, often combined with poor supervision, accounts for a large portion of the fires set by children, and the children who set fires are from a diverse group with varied social backgrounds and varying motives.

Some children who set fires are from "unstable homes," and many come from poor families. However, the statistics do not define a specific racial or ethnic group to be involved, nor is it found that many of the children have serious problems.

When identified juvenile firesetters warrant prevention efforts, the Agawam Fire Department provides these suggestions:

- Reduce the likelihood that any child will engage in unsupervised or otherwise potentially dangerous firesetting by removing matches and lighters from reach.

- Reduce the likelihood that children who have engaged in occasional unsupervised and/or otherwise dangerous firesetting do not repeat this behavior by better supervision and/or corrective measures.

- Identify and work intensively with those children who have an established history of firesetting.

Should you know of, or suspect, a juvenile firesetter, contact the Agawam Fire Department at 786-2662 for help.

Ag. Police Blotter For Week-Ending Monday, Dec. 20th

On December 16, 1997, Mario S. Wilson of 670 Main St., Agawam was arrested and charged with shoplifting. Arresting officer was Tom Marmo.

On December 16, 1997, Mark E. Riley of 33 Norman Terrace, Feeding Hills was arrested and charged with larceny under \$250.00, and shoplifting. Arresting officer was Eric Camerlin.

On December 18, 1997, Wilson Roche of 2708 Main St., Springfield was arrested and charged with shoplifting. Arresting officer was Eric Camerlin.

On December 18, 1997, Pablo Lopez of no known address was arrested and charged with shoplifting. Arresting officer was Eric Camerlin.

On December 19, 1997, Joanne Urbanski of 84 Front St, Chicopee was arrested and charged with receiving stolen property over \$250.00. Arresting officer was Mark Ceccarini.

On December 20, 1997, Kevin A. Dupree of 15 Fairview Ave., West Springfield was arrested and charged with disorderly conduct. Arresting officer was Richard Riccio.

On December 20, 1997, John C. Liquori of 716 Cooper St., Agawam was arrested and charged with domestic assault and battery. Arresting officer was Mark Poggi.

All the local news
with us, each week

COUNCIL PRESIDENT - from Page 2...

Councilor George Bitzas has pledged his support to Ms. Thompson, but only on the first ballot. "If she doesn't have the votes on the first ballot, I'm going to switch to Don Rheault," Bitzas said. "I'm not going to go back and forth over the voting. I believe both of them would be very fair as council president and that both could do a good job."

Bitzas said he has emphasized with both candidates his desire to see a more dignified atmosphere at Citizen's Speak Time, preserving free speech but putting an end to misuse of the public microphone to complain about businesses, publicize fundraisers, and make false accusations and personal attacks on some councilors while praising others.

"If Citizen's Speak Time is not dignified, it carries over into the meetings," Bitzas said.

Among the councilors who said they are not actively seeking the office, but would accept the vice-presidency if nominated and elected, are Perry, Magovern, and Mrs. Simpson.

Bitzas is not interested in the job himself, but he will support a Negrucci candidacy.

Perry said he believes he can work effectively in the second seat, no matter who gets the top spot. "Maybe I could give the kind of advice that would help calm things down when some of these heated situations get going," Perry said.

"I don't campaign on a big scale," Mrs. Simpson said. "They've got my name, they know what I've done in the past. Either they vote for me or they don't."

Councilor-elect Robert Young is leaning toward Ms. Thompson, but he won't block either candidate's election.

"I don't feel strongly for one side or the other. They both have experience, so I'm not worried about that," Young said. "I'd like to work with the council as a group. This might be an opportunity for the group to come together."

A call to Councilor-elect Gary Geiger was not returned.

* * *

HAPPY HOLIDAYS
TO YOU & YOURS!

* * *

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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Thursday, January 8th
Meeting to discuss the
Americans' Disabilities Act (ADA)
At Agawam Senior Center
12:15 to 1:00 p.m.
Call 789-7199 for further information

Thursday, January 8th
Agawam Community Artists
to present program by
artist Kristin Grant
At Capt. Leonard House, Main Street
7:00 p.m.

Friday, January 9th
"1998 Inaugural Celebration"
At The Oaks Banquet House,
1070 Suffield Street, Agawam
Call 786-0400, ext. 201 for
tickets and additional information

* Remember, The AAN does not
publish between Christmas and New
Year's. Our next edition will be
published on Thursday, January 8th



The Agawam Advertiser•News

786-7747

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786-8137

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A Piece Of The News

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

"TIMELY" GIFTS AND REMARKS

The six retiring town councilors knew the clock was ticking out the final days of their terms, but they were somewhat disconcerted to hear ticking coming from the gift packages handed out at the Monday, December 15th council meeting by Mayor Christopher C. Johnson as a tribute to their years of service to the town.

His Honor's remarks aroused rather than assuaged their concerns.

"Please don't be worried that whatever is in your bag is ticking," Johnson deadpanned. "We have very good insurance."

Joking that he wanted to investigate the origin of the ticking before the Mayor left the auditorium, Councilor Joseph Langone opened his package and displayed what each outgoing councilor had received: a plaque-mounted quartz clock with an engraved brass plate to commemorate their terms as councilmen.

As he presented the gift bags, Johnson had nothing but praise for the six councilors, especially those generally considered on opposite sides of the political fence from him.

To Council President Kent P. Servis, who lost his seat on the council as well as his bid for the mayor's job, Johnson said knowing Servis would not be returning to the council was the bittersweet element of his Election Night victory.

Johnson praised Servis' hard work in helping draft the ordinance to regulate cell phone towers that is currently under consideration by the council.

"This man doesn't have any 'quit' in him," Johnson said. "It says a lot about him that he put in long hours to make that ordinance a reality when he could have walked away and coasted his last two months in office."

Johnson denied that he and Councilor Gary Suffriti were political enemies and Suffriti later agreed, echoing the Mayor's remarks.

"I have a tremendous amount of respect for Gary," Johnson said. "He shoots from the hip and doesn't pull any punches. I'm going to miss that."

To Councilor Chris Quatrone, who worked on his first mayoral campaign while still in high

school, Johnson said, "As chairman of the Ordinance Committee, he worked very hard and I know he's going to come back to the council."

Johnson called Councilor David Skolnick a "man of integrity" who worked tirelessly for the people of Agawam. "We'll miss him on the council floor, but hopefully not around town," Johnson said.

According to Johnson, Councilor Langone's legacy to the town is the Italian Sister City Project, while Councilor Thomas Ennis can claim a leadership role in the purchase of both the Tuckahoe Turf Farm and the Agawam Country Club as well as in the completion of the new Fire Department headquarters on Main Street.

"You brought together the necessary two-thirds majority," Johnson said. "Your dad worked long and hard for the town, and you carried out his work admirably."

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, LOU MASSOIA, JR.!!!

At its Tuesday, December 16th meeting, the School Committee turned the tables on their "performing" member, Louis Massoia, Jr., by opening their meeting with a rousing rendition of *Happy Birthday* in honor of his birthday.

Massoia has been known to pen and perform songs and poems for all occasions. Who could forget his campaign song: *Let's Vote For Lou Today*?

RENAISSANCE PROGRAM UPDATE

During the same School Committee meeting, AHS English teacher Dorothy Martin gave the committee an update on the progress of the six year-old Renaissance program.

Director of Curriculum and Instruction Mary Czajkowski said half of the students at the school have received recognition from the program since the School Committee approved the program six years ago.

The program seeks to reward the students for their responsible behavior and their academic achievements through a partnership with businesses and community resources, making it possible for Renaissance to offer members discounts at participating local businesses; parties

throughout the school year; and drawings and raffles like the Prom Package; and prizes for high scorers on the SAT's.

Mrs. Martin said the program builds an expectation of success in the students, helping them attain their full potential.

"Our criteria are quite stringent and have never been altered," Mrs. Martin said. "Yet, the students continue to attempt to achieve Renaissance, even though they know the rules are unbending."

School Committeewoman Roberta Doering told the club advisor, "It's a tribute to your program that part of the Junior High's School Improvement Plan is to implement its own Renaissance program. That's a compliment to you and the rest of your team."

Mrs. Martin serves on the Renaissance advisory team with family consumer science teacher Cindy MacKormick, science teacher Michael Kidd, and Spanish teacher Linda Sasso.

Each marking period, nearly a quarter of the school's student body is eligible for a Renaissance card or a gold card. With their card, students received discounts from area business sponsors and perks, including the coveted mid-term and final exam exemptions at school as well.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

At its January 13th meeting, the School Committee is expected to consider adopting the School Improvement Plans submitted by the eight School Councils in December.

On January 27th, the committee will begin its regular meeting at 8:00 p.m. in the Middle School auditorium. Immediately preceding the meeting, the committee will hold a workshop session at 6:45 p.m. to discuss plans to overhaul the way the School Department provides guidance and psychological counseling to the students.

Both meetings are open to the public, and both will be telecast over cable access Channel 15.

Also at the January 27th meeting, School Superintendent Dr. Frank Ameruso will update the committee on the progress of the vision of the School Department he outlined last year.

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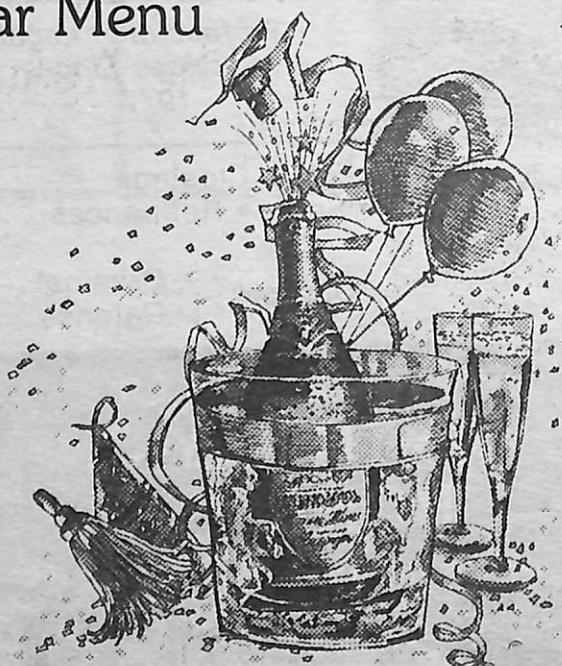
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Bill & Nancy Kozak And Family



Democrats Gather



DEMOCRATIC TOWN COMMITTEE members, from left - Edward Caba, Gina Marie Letellier, Louis Russo, and Jack Rioni gathered at E.B's Restaurant recently for the annual holiday party, Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF AGAWAM BOARD OF APPEALS

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Appeals will conduct a public hearing at the Agawam Middle School Cafeteria, 68 Main St., Agawam, MA on FRIDAY, JANUARY 2, 1998, at 6:30 p.m. for all parties interested in the appeal of THOMAS R. FREDETTE, who is seeking a Special Use Permit in accordance with Section 180-11, of the Zoning Ordinances, which would allow for the temporary storage of the old "Betty's Townhouse" building at the premises identified as 266 WALNUT STREET.

Ronald A. Hebert
Chairman

Published: December 23, 1997

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Agawam's Inaugural Ceremonies Are Set For January 9, 1998

The AGAWAM INAUGURAL COMMITTEE has set the 1998 INAUGURAL CELEBRATIONS for Friday, January 9, 1998. The celebration will include a mock swearing in ceremony for the Mayor, the Agawam City Council, and the Agawam School Committee. The ceremony will be followed by dinner, dancing, and time to meet our local officials.

The 1998 INAUGURAL CELEBRATION will be held at The Oaks Banquet House, which is located at 1070 Suffield Street in Agawam. The live music and entertainment will be provided by Passport, a four-piece band specializing in music from the 70's, 80's, and today.

In order to make the 1998 INAUGURAL CELEBRATIONS a success, we need your support. The INAUGURAL COMMITTEE is seeking business sponsors for the event as well.

Tickets will be \$22 per person. The sponsorship cost is \$75, which includes two tickets and a listing in the evening's program.

Tickets will be on sale starting December 16, 1997. If you have any questions, please contact Jennifer in the Mayor's Office at 786-0400, Ext. 201.

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF AGAWAM AGAWAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION

The Agawam Conservation Commission will meet on Thursday, January 8, 1998 at 7:15 PM in the Faolin Peirce Community Room, Agawam Police Station, 681 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, Mass. The purpose of this meeting will be to hear the Request for Determination of Applicability of the Mass. Highway Department for property located along Route 5 and along Route 57.

By Order of Henry A. Kozloski, Chairman
Agawam Conservation Commission
Published: Dec. 23, 1997

LEGAL NOTICE

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Doreen Prouty
Acting Chairperson

Published: December 23, 1997

check our classified

Agawam Obituaries

Dolor H. Bergeron, Jr.

Dolor H. "Mike" Bergeron, Jr., 56, formerly of Elmar Drive, Feeding Hills, died in Baystate Medical Center in Springfield.

He was a 14-year employee for IBM Corp. in Burlington, Vermont, and Hartford, CT.

He and his wife also operated the Pop-Ins Maid Service in Hartford and Bergeron Cleaning Services.

Born in Colchester, Vermont, he was a 1969 graduate of Champlain College in Burlington.

He lived in Simsbury, CT, prior to moving to Feeding Hills in 1982.

He served in the Navy and was a member of the Harvest Assembly of God Church, West Springfield.

He leaves his wife, the former Alice Haven; a son, Gregory D. Bergeron of Feeding Hills; two daughters, Elizabeth E. Bergeron of Lynn and Suzanne H. Bergeron of Feeding Hills; and a sister, Anne Blanchard of St. Charles, Illinois.

The funeral was held at the Agawam Curran-Jones Funeral Home, and a spring burial will be held in Cedar Grove Cemetery in Fair Haven, Vermont.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Harvest Assembly of God Church, Union Street, West Springfield, MA 01089.

John R. Lens

John R. Lens, 83, of 452 North West Street, Feeding Hills, died at Baystate Medical Center in Springfield.

He was a 25-year construction worker, and helped to build Baystate West and the Springfield Civic Center.

He belonged to Local 999 of the Laborers International Union of North America. He retired in 1981.

Born in Lwow, Poland, he came to this country in 1949, and lived in Springfield before moving to Feeding Hills in 1962.

He was a World War II veteran of the Polish Cavalry, and was a prisoner of the Germans.

He was a communicant of Our Lady of the Rosary Church in Springfield, and was active in Sacred Heart Church in Feeding Hills.

He leaves his wife, Nancy J. (Ziarnik) Lens; a son, John E. of Windsor, Vermont; two daughters, Christine H. Lens-Bonanno of West Bridgewater and Irene S. Lens-Baumgaertner of Northford, CT; and eight grandchildren.

The funeral was held at Agawam Funeral Home and Sacred Heart Church, with the burial in Springfield Street Cemetery in Feeding Hills.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Open Pantry, 1023 Main Street, West Springfield, MA 01089, or the Rescue Mission, 19 Bliss Street, Springfield, MA 01105.

SEE OBITUARIES - Page 7...



SEASON'S GREETINGS

*Best wishes from our family to yours
for a happy holiday and a prosperous new year!*

Enjoy the winter. See you in the Spring!

E. Cecchi Farms

1131 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills

"Everything you'd grow if you had 40 acres."

OBITUARIES - from Page 6...

Dollie Madden

Dollie (Patterson) Madden, 85, formerly of Plante Circle, Chicopee, died on December 11th at Mercy Hospital in Springfield.

She worked at Riverside Amusement Park in Agawam for 30 years.

Born in Springfield, she was a longtime area resident.

Her husband, Robert A. Madden, died in 1947.

She leaves a daughter, Randy Sullivan of Natick; a granddaughter, Tara Sullivan; and two great-grandchildren, Corey Dale and Chelsea Dale, all of Florida.

The burial was held at the convenience of the family, and Tylunas Funeral Home was in charge of the arrangements.

Rev. Floyd C. Bryan

Rev. Floyd Charles Bryan, 77, of 118 Plantation Drive, Agawam, died in a local nursing home.

Born in Toledo, Ohio, he was a graduate of the University of Toledo. He then graduated from the Oberlin College Theological Seminary in Wakeman, Ohio, and was ordained on June 26, 1949.

He was active in civic theater groups in both Forest City, Iowa, and Grand Rapids, Michigan. Rev. Bryan's first church was in Wakeman, Ohio, and then he served at churches in Iowa, Illinois, and Michigan.

He moved to Agawam in 1963. At that time, he became the minister at the Agawam Congregational Church, where he retained that position until his retirement in 1988.

He served as interim Pastor for the Federated Church of Chicopee, and then the First Church of Northampton. He also served as visiting minister of Old First Church in Court Square in Springfield.

He received the honor of Pastor Emeritus of the Agawam Congregational Church in October of 1990.

Rev. Bryan was the past president and a charter member of the Agawam Rotary Club, a chaplain at American International College, and Heritage Hall Nursing Home in Agawam. He was also on the Agawam Council of Aging, the Greater Springfield Council of Aging, and World Affairs Council.

He leaves his wife, the former Phyllis J. Parker; a son, John R. of Chicopee; two daughters, Janice

B. Folts of Hatfield and Valerie S. Witholt of Amherst; and four grandchildren.

A memorial service will be held on Sunday, January 4th at 2:00 p.m. in the Ag. Congregational Church. Burial will be at the convenience of the family, and Agawam Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements.

Donations may be made to the Agawam Congregational Church, 745 Main Street, Agawam, MA 01001.

George H. Muller

George H. Muller, 66, of 35 High Street, West Springfield, died at the Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Leeds, Northampton.

He was a 39-year employee of Hamilton Standard Division of United Technologies Corp. in Windsor Locks, CT, and retired in 1992.

Born in Malone, New York, he lived in Feeding Hills before moving to West Springfield in 1966.

He was an Army veteran of the Korean War, and a member of the Hamilton Standard Retirees Club and the Westfield Sportsmen's Club.

He leaves his wife, Joyce N. Nichols; a son, Carl G. of Feeding Hills; two daughters, Catherine A. Pyrro of Westhampton and Linda J. Motyka of West Springfield; three brothers, Robert F. of Springfield, James H. of Louisville, Kentucky, and William J. of Burlington, Vermont; two sisters, Charlotte Willett of Springfield and Marilyn Neal of Norwich, CT; and eight grandchildren.

The funeral was held at Toomey-O'Brien Funeral Home, with the burial at Island Pond Cemetery in Ludlow.

For medical reasons, the family requests no flowers, but memorial contributions may be made to the West Springfield Public Library, 200 Park Street, West Springfield, MA 01089.

Frank A. D'Agostino

Frank A. D'Agostino, 77, of 661 99th Ave., North Naples, Florida, and formerly of Enfield, Connecticut, died at home.

He was a 15-year fleet maintenance worker for Friendly's Ice Cream Corp. He retired in 1978.

He worked previously at the former Elm Garage and Louie's Chevrolet, both of Enfield.

He was born in Agawam and lived in Enfield for 20 years before moving to Florida in 1979.

He was a World War II Army veteran, and was one of the first young men called in the historic October 29, 1940 draft lottery conducted by War

Secretary Henry L. Stimson.

He served in the 548th Field Artillery Heavy Maintenance Company of the Third Army, and saw action in the Battle of the Bulge in Belgium in the winter of 1944-45.

He was a member of Knights of Columbus Council 50 and Patrick Triggs Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1501, both of Enfield.

He leaves his wife, Virginia (Berte) D'Agostino; two daughters, Janet D. Bergen of Suffield and Lynn D. Rausch of Naples, Florida; a brother, Felix Augustino of Feeding Hills; and a grandson.

The funeral was held at Colonial-Forastiere Funeral Home of Agawam and St. Martha's Church in Enfield. The burial was in St. Michael's Cemetery in Springfield.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Dr. Berte Scholarship Foundation, in care of Springfield College, Alden Street, Springfield, MA 01119.

Alexander Lapie

Alexander Lapie, 79, of 239 Maynard Street, Agawam, died in a local nursing home.

He was a machinist for several area automobile companies. He worked previously for the AMC Jeep Dealership, and at the Food Mart for 10 years.

He was born in Harverhill, and lived in this area for 50 years.

He served in the Marine Corps 8th Recruit Battalion.

He worshipped at St. Peter and St. Paul Russian Orthodox Church, and was the parish financial secretary.

He was a member of American Legion Post 462, and managed the drum and bugle corps at St. George's Greek Cathedral in Springfield.

His wife, Olga (Suman) Lapie, died in 1994.

He leaves a son, Alexander Jr. of Agawam; a sister, Antoinette Houghton of Nashville, Tennessee; three step-grandchildren; a nephew; and two nieces.

The funeral was held at Springfield Funeral Home and the church, with the burial at Oak Grove Cemetery in Springfield.

Memorial contributions may be made to St. Peter and St. Paul Russian Orthodox Church, 118 Carew Street, Springfield, MA 01104.

SEE OBITUARIES - Page 8...

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OBITUARIES - from Page 7...

Helen A. Waite

Helen A. (Fellion) Waite, 63, of 120 Hilton Street, Chicopee, died at the Agawam home of her daughter.

She worked at the former Great Atlantic & Pacific Tea Co. Food Store in West Springfield for 13 years.

She was born in Springfield, and lived in West Springfield before moving to Chicopee 19 years ago.

She leaves two sons, David R. of Springfield and Mark of Tampa, Florida; two daughters, Donna L. Dean of Feeding Hills and Lori A. Harper of Agawam; two brothers, James of Stuart, Florida, and Bernard of Virginia Beach, Virginia; two sisters, Margaret Christianson of Clearwater, Florida, and Jean Grant of Chicago, Illinois; seven grandchildren; and her friend and housemate, Ted LaPolice.

The funeral was held at Toomey-O'Brien Funeral Home, with the burial in Agawam Center Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Visiting Nurse Association-Hospice, 50 Maple Street, Box 9058, Springfield, MA 01102-9058.

Barbara G. Rivers

Barbara G. (Aloisi) Rivers, 74, of 103 Spencer Street, Agawam, a clerk at the former Zayre's Department Store, died at Mercy Hospital in Springfield.

She worked previously for the former F.W. Sickles Co. of Chicopee, and the former Diamond Match Co., and was the housekeeper at St. Theresa's Church Rectory.

Born in Springfield, she was a 1943 graduate of Agawam High School, and a longtime Agawam resident.

She was a communicant of St. Theresa's, and belonged to its Women's Club. She also belonged to Golden Age Club Chapter 2, the Senior Center, and the Nocturnal Adoration Society of Agawam-West Springfield.

She leaves her husband, Earl M. Rivers; two sons, Gary E. and Russell E. of Agawam; and three grandchildren, Shannon, Lindsay, and Jessica Rivers.

The funeral was held at Agawam Funeral Home and the church, with the burial in Center Cemetery.

LEGAL NOTICE

**TOWN OF AGAWAM
PLANNING BOARD**

The Agawam Planning Board will hold a public hearing at the Agawam Town Council meeting on Tuesday, January 20, 1998 at 7:30 P.M. at Agawam Middle School, 68 Main Street, Agawam, MA. The purpose of this hearing will be to hear the petition of the Agawam Planning Board for a proposed amendment to the Agawam Zoning Ordinance, Chapter 180, to allow for provisions to regulate "Personal Wireless Service Facilities and Towers" and to amend the Agawam Zoning Map, Chapter 180, Section B by the creation of a Wireless Telecommunications Overlay District.

The district includes the following properties: N15-1-1, N14-1-1, K3-3-1, H3-1-21, H3-1-24, H3-1-19, H3-1-22, G2-1-1, E2-1-6, F6-1-1, D10-1-6, B14-1-4, B14-1-3, B14-1-5, G7-1-3, G7-1-4, G7-2-6, G6-1-1, H8-1-5, and F6-2-2, G7-3-1, G6-3-6, G7-1-8, H7-2-4, G6-1-7, H7-2-3, G6-1-3, G7-2-2, G6-1-8, G6-1-4, G5-6-1, H7-2-2, F7-2-2, G5-6-2, G5-6-3, G6-3-4, G7-2-3, G6-3-5, H8-1-1, G8-1-14, G7-1-1, G7-1-2, G7-2-1, H5-1-5, H5-1-6, H5-1-1, H6-1-1, H6-1-17, H6-1-18, I4-1-9, I5-1-11, and I5-1-12.

These properties are included by reason of their potential to provide technically feasible and accessible locations for the siting of facilities which can provide adequate wireless telecommunications services to the Town of Agawam. A copy of the proposed zoning amendments and overlay district map can be obtained from the Agawam Planning Office or the Agawam Town Clerk's Office between the hours of 8:30 A.M. and 4:30 P.M. in the Agawam Town Hall, 36 Main Street, Agawam, MA.

BY ORDER OF:

Charles R. Calabrese, Chairman
Agawam Planning Board

Published: December 23, 1997

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

**TOWN OF AGAWAM
AGAWAM PLANNING BOARD**

The Agawam Planning Board will hold a public hearing on Thursday, January 15, 1998 at 7:15 PM in the Faolin Peirce Community Room, Agawam Police Station, 681 Springfield Street, Agawam. The purpose of this hearing will be to hear the petition of Valenti for a Definitive Subdivision Plan. The proposed subdivision will consist of two lots on the westerly sideline of Greenwood Street and the southerly sideline of Warren Street on 40,000 sq. ft. of land.

By Order of Charles R. Calabrese, Chairman
Agawam Planning Board

Published: December 23, 1997

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

**TOWN OF AGAWAM
AGAWAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

The Agawam Conservation Commission will meet on Thursday, January 8, 1998 at 7:30 PM in the Faolin Peirce Community Room, Agawam Police Station, 681 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, Mass. The purpose of this meeting will be to hear the Request for Determination of Applicability of Russo for property located on the west side of Franklin Street and the east side of Garden Street.

By Order of Henry A. Kozloski, Chairman
Agawam Conservation Commission

Published: December 23, 1997

BEST LOCAL NEWS

**All the local news
with us, each week
ADVERTISER NEWS**

check
our
classifieds

**The Agawam Federal
Credit Union Wishes
Everyone A Happy
Holiday Season!**

All Of Our Staff And Board
Of Directors Wish To Say
Thank-You For Making 1997
Such A Wonderful Year For Us.



4 Washington Ave. Ext.
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Peter Forastiere

"When we were growing up,
we were always told to work hard,
be compassionate to others, and
remember one important thing:
There's nothing more
important than family."

From my family to yours, make this holiday season
count with togetherness and remembrance.



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And All-Day Christmas

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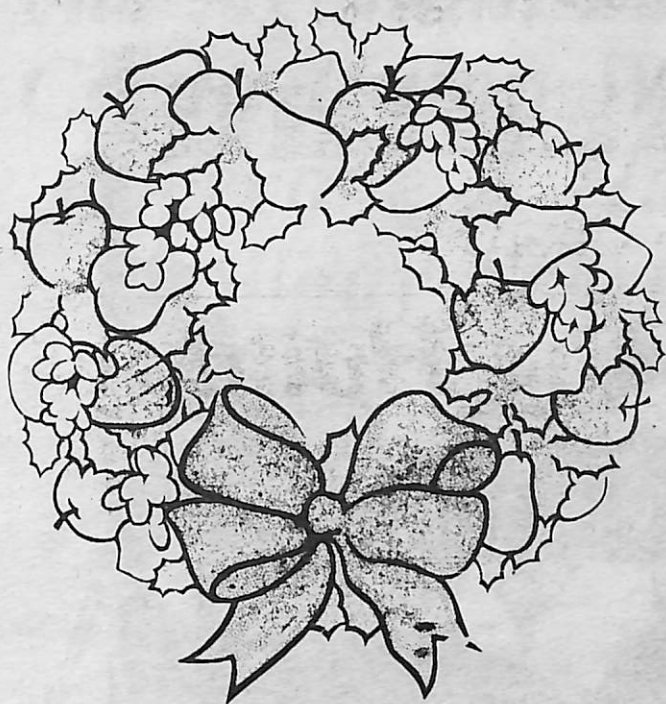


Families

Santa Claus Arrives At Polish Club



SANTA CLAUS appeared at the Polish American Club in Feeding Hills recently for the annual kids' Christmas party. From left - St. Nick is pictured with Stephanie Norman, Douglas Labun, and Keisha Hatfield. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.



*May the Spirit
of Christmas
fill your home with joy
this Holiday Season.*

*Happy Holidays
from
Dick & Joe Curran
and the staff of
Curran-Jones Funeral Homes
Agawam, West Springfield
and Holyoke*

Historic Items Being Sold To Raise Funds For Fire Museum

In its effort to raise funds for the renovation of the former Elm Street fire station into the Agawam Historical & Fire House Museum, the Agawam Historical Association is offering a number of items for sale in time for holiday gift-giving.

In addition to a commemorative poster, notecard, and postcard featuring Adrienne Lacey's painting of the Elm Street Station, the Historical Association is offering two commemorative pins: a bronze depiction of the new Fire Department headquarters, and a pewter depiction of the Elm Street Station.

A set of four coffee mugs has also been created, featuring the Elm Street Station on one side and antique fire equipment on the reverse.

For the model train enthusiast, an HO gauge model kit of the Elm Street Station is available. An assembled model of this intricately detailed kit is on display in the lobby of the Agawam Public Library throughout the month of December.

Bird lovers have not been forgotten either—a sturdy replica of the Elm Street Station has been crafted as a birdhouse, complete with shingles and cleanout.

The town history book by Edith LaFrancis is also available for sale.

All items for sale are on display in the lobby of the Agawam Public Library throughout the month of December. Items are available for purchase at the Agawam Fire Department Headquarters on Main Street from 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

For more information or to purchase any of these items, please contact Carol or Bill Miller at 786-7329, or the Agawam Fire Department Headquarters at 786-0657.

All proceeds will be used toward the renovation of the Elm Street Station, which is estimated to cost \$30,000. To date, some \$15,000 has been raised.

Check our classified

Polish Club Welcomes Santa Claus



AT THE ANNUAL KIDS' CHRISTMAS PARTY AT THE Polish American Club in Feeding Hills, Santa Claus chats with his many admirers. Of course, all of the kids told him they were even better for mom and dad this past year. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Disability Van Service To Be Discussed At Agawam Senior Center

On Thursday, January 8th, from 12:15 to 1:00 p.m., a meeting to discuss the Americans' Disabilities Act (ADA) will take place at the Agawam Senior Center.

Mary Ellen Alicandri, mobility trainer from the PTVA, will provide us with an informational

presentation. PTVA provides van service for passengers who are unable to use the bus due to a disability. Questions and answers on service eligibility will be discussed, and applications will be available for those needing this service.

For further information, call 789-7199.

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AHS Show Choir, Jazz Band Performs At Chamber Breakfast



AT THE ANNUAL HOLIDAY BREAKFAST at Oak Ridge Golf Club sponsored by the Agawam Chamber of Commerce, members of the Agawam High School Show Choir (directed by faculty member Stephen Files, left in photo) performed, as did some of the members of the school's Jazz Band (photo below). Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.



NO ONE covers all the hometown news like us, each week - Advertiser News



MARIA CONCALVES from BankBoston, treasurer of the Agawam Chamber of Commerce (left), presents Joyce Bressam Granger, chairwoman of the Agawam Junior Women's Club's Holiday Basket Project, a check for \$123 to be used for the club's annual event. Mrs. Bressam Granger also received a donation of canned goods at the Chamber's Annual Holiday Breakfast at Oak Ridge Golf Club. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



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and Customers a
Very Happy New Year**

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in Feeding Hills

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Video Game TV (after rebate)	\$ 199.00
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MR. & MRS. JOSEPH ALBANO

Shelley Grassetti Becomes Bride Of Joseph Albano

Our Lady of Mount Carmel was the setting for the September 13, 1997 wedding of Shelley Grassetti and Joseph Albano.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. Michael & Mrs. Sandy Grassetti, and Dr. Michael & Mrs. Nancy Jawitz of Agawam. Parents of the groom are Mrs. Assuntina Albano of the Feeding Hills and the late Ignazio (Al) Albano.

Kelly Quink attended the bride as maid of honor. Glen Armstrong served the groom as best man.

The bride is a 1992 graduate of Agawam High School. She is currently enrolled in the Nursing Program at the Elms College in Chicopee.

The groom is a 1986 graduate of Agawam High School. He has attended Springfield Technical Community College. He is currently working for the United Parcel Service.



DEBBIE ALBANO & JASON OLIVER

Debbie Albano To Wed Jason Oliver

Mrs. Assuntina Albano of Feeding Hills would like to announce the engagement of her daughter, Debbie Albano, to Jason Oliver, son of Joanne & Joseph Oliver of Wilmington, MA.

The bride-to-be is also the daughter of the late Ignazio (Al) Albano.

The couple has planned a March 1998 wedding.

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January Activities For Agawam Golden Age Club, Chapter 2

January 7th: Regular meeting at 1:30 p.m. (Bingo will be played.)

January 21st: Regular meeting at 1:30 p.m. Speaker - Ronald Sawyer, hard-of-hearing specialist.

January 23rd: Board of Directors' meeting at 1:00 p.m. at the Agawam Senior Center.

The membership booklet is being updated. Members are asked to submit their current addresses to Rita Matys or Ed Grimes.

Membership dues for 1998 are now payable to Ed Grimes.

AHS Class Of 1993 Making Plans For Five Year Reunion

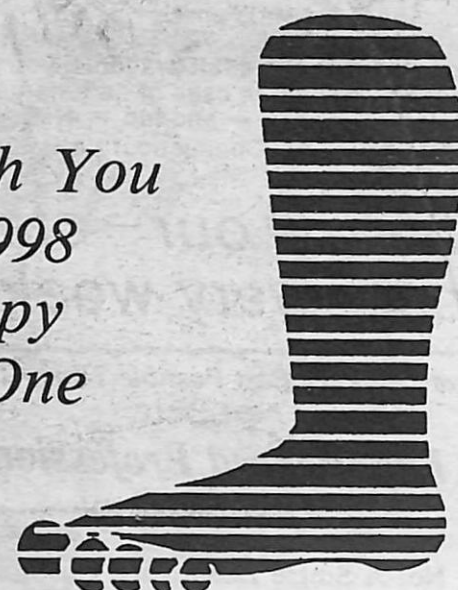
Plans are underway for the five-year reunion of Agawam High School's Class of 1993. Class officers guarantee this will be an event you won't want to miss...he's checking his list, he checking it twice, he's going to find out whose been naughty or nice.

Regardless, all are welcome to attend. This is an open invitation to all alumni from Agawam's "Famous Class of '93."

At presstime, there is no information about the reunion available. However, president Steve Lewis wishes to assure you all that many rumors will be spread about this event, but the actual details will not be revealed until April or May of 1998.

A 24-hour hotline has been set up at (413) 562-9334 if you are interested in more information. Otherwise, the class officers collectively would like to wish you all a happy holiday season.

*May The Path You
Take In 1998
Be A Happy
And Safe One*



Season's Greetings



Dr. Michael Haynes
Podiatrist

24 Southwick Street
Feeding Hills Center
786-7522

10 Tips For Babysitting On New Year's Eve

- 1. **Choose Your Job Carefully.** Lots of parents will be looking for a babysitter for their New Year's Eve celebrations. You may want to mention your availability to your favorite client so you don't get booked if someone else calls early.
 - 2. **Check It Out.** Discuss all jobs with your parents. Be cautious about taking a New Year's job with a new family. Suggest you babysit, or at least visit, with the children well before the big night. Remember to ask yourself: "Am I able?" Will I be safe?"
 - 3. **Get Organized.** Write down arrangements, especially when the date is far off. Include the phone number so you can call if something comes up.
 - 4. **Set Your Fee.** Discuss your hourly rate before the job. Sitters who are surprised by poor pay haven't done their homework. You may not get the high rates you want, but you should never be surprised.
 - 5. **Ask For The Details.** Make sure you know how long the job is supposed to last. Tell your parents what time you should be home and your transportation arrangements. In case of a late return, you may want a back-up plan, or your parents may want to relieve you.
 - 6. **Plan Ahead.** Take activities or crafts to the babysitting job for the long hours. Be sure to check with your employers to be sure all activities are OK with them. Your questions may prompt them to provide some fun, too.
 - 7. **Prepare Yourself.** Be sure to take a reference for emergencies. You can get a first aid chart from your local pharmacy or family physician. If you haven't already taken a babysitter preparation course to prepare you for medical emergencies, make a New Year's resolution to enroll in one.
 - 8. **Remember Your Safety Signal.** Unfortunately, sitters can be put in unsafe situations on New Year's by such things as an employer who has had too much to drink to be a safe driver. Develop a phrase to signal your parents that you need help and you need them to come immediately. By using a secret phrase that your parents recognize as meaning you need help, you can signal your parents that you are in danger without having to explain what the problem is.
 - 9. **Emergencies Do Happen.** Make sure that there is at least one adult available, you parent or a neighbor, to help in case of an emergency.
 - 10. **Have a happy — and fun — New Year!**
- Submitted by the Connecticut Valley Girl Scout Council.

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J & B (1.75 Ltr.) \$25.99		Drambuie (750 ml.) \$18.99	Seagram 7 (1.75 Ltr.) \$12.99		

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Sutter Home (1.5 Ltr.) White Zinfandel & Sauvignon Blanc - \$6.99 Cabernet & Chardonnay - \$8.99	Almanden (5 Ltr. Box) Low Tier - \$7.99 (Blush, Golden Chablis, Mountain Rhine, White Grenach) Middle - \$11.99 (White Zinfandel, Mt. Burgundy) High - \$14.99 (Chardonnay, Cabernet Sauvignon)				
M & R Asti (750 ml.) \$7.99		Moet White Star (750 ml.) \$22.99	Andre (750 ml.) \$2.99		Korbell (750 ml.) \$7.99
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Genevieve Rose Performs At Heritage Woods



AT A RECENT OPEN HOUSE at Heritage Woods for the Heritage Hall residents and families, the Paradise City Jazz Band, including Genevieve Rose, a graduate of Agawam High School (back row, right) performed with singer Montenia. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

PLEASE REMEMBER our next deadline is Tuesday, January 6th at noontime. The office will be open during the weekdays between Christmas and New Year's.



MARY MULCAHY, resident of Heritage Woods at 462 Main Street, puts the angel on top of the Christmas tree with a little help from Santa to kick-off the Open House festivities earlier this month. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

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g. 1/2 ct. TW	Sale	\$599
a. .10 ct. TW	Sale	\$119
b. .15 ct. TW	Sale	\$199
c. 1/5 ct. TW	Sale	\$249
d. 1/4 ct. TW	Sale	\$309
e. 1/3 ct. TW	Sale	\$389

Christmas Seal Ball Held By Lung Association



THE AMERICAN LUNG ASSOCIATION of Western Mass. held its Annual Christmas Seal Ball on Saturday, December 6th, at The Oaks in Agawam. From left - Mario Sakellis (executive director of Lung Association), Pat Sakellis, Kristina Gourley, Nikki Reed, Mike Reed, Sam Gourley, James Moran (ball chairman), Brenda Garton (News22 anchor and master of ceremonies), Rhoda Zettle, and Mario Sakellis.

Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

SOME OF THOSE WHO ATTENDED the Seventh Annual Christmas Seal Ball sponsored by the American Lung Association at The Oaks in Agawam included, from left - Fran Malony, Bob Longo, Gail Longo, Bruno Antico, Paula Antico, Irene Thomas, Rene Thomas, Pat Hill, and Dick Hill. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



PLEASE REMEMBER our next deadline is Tuesday, January 6th at noontime. The office will be open during the weekdays between Christmas and New Year's but our staff will be in and out during the day. You are welcome to drop off your items or call us at 786-7747 and leave a message. Thank-you very much.



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Merry Christmas
And A Happy
New Year!**

The Pananas Family
 Louie, Carol, Billy, And Angelo

Helping The Needy



DOROTHY MAPES, a volunteer at Quail Run Estates, helped the elderly residents there make hats and mittens to be distributed to needy children during the holiday season. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Fuel Assistance Info & Applications At Agawam Senior Center

Information and applications are available at the Agawam Senior Center for those individuals qualifying for fuel assistance. Please look at the income guidelines to determine if you may be eligible.

Household size:

1 - Income under \$13,808 (eligible)

2 - Income under \$18,568 (eligible)

Appointments will be made on Wednesday mornings in January and February from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Remember, when you come in for your appointment, **you must bring...**

1. Proof of your household income, a copy of Social Security, SSI, pensions, and retirement checks.

2. A copy of your latest heating bill (*make sure it has your name and address on it*).

3. A current I.D., Social Security card, birth certificate, or your current driver's license.

GOOD NEWS!!!

The Senior Pharmacy Program will continue through 1998!

Call the Senior Center and make an appointment with Trudy, our SHINE representative, for more information about your eligibility. Trudy is in the Agawam Senior Center on the first and third Tuesday of every month from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon to answer your questions.

January Activities For Agawam Golden Age Club, Chapter 1

Friday, January 2nd: Board of Directors' meeting at the Senior Center. Time will be at 1:00 p.m.

Wednesday, January 14th: "New Year Meeting" at 1:30 p.m. with entertainment by Chicopee's Singing/Swinging Seniors.

Wednesday, January 28th: Meeting at 1:30 p.m. Program to be announced.

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Duplicates Available
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Ag. Senior Center's Weekly Lunch Menu

Monday, December 29th: Chicken noodle soup, pesto pizza, tossed salad, fresh apples.

Tuesday, December 30th: Vegetable quiche, potato wedges, Italian vegetables, whole wheat bread, jello with fruit.

Wednesday, December 31st: Chicken barley stew, spinach salad, biscuit, apricots.

Thursday, January 1st: New Year's Day (Senior Center closed).

Friday, January 2nd: Baked fish, rice Pilaf, carrots, whole wheat bread, butterscotch pudding.

Monday, January 5th: Steak strips with

gravy, sweet potato, cabbage, rye bread, fresh pears.

Tuesday, January 6th: "Birthday Day" —Shepherd's pie, glazed carrots, whole wheat bread, plums.

Wednesday, January 7th: Batter dip chicken, mashed potatoes and gravy, tossed salad, whole wheat bread, chocolate pudding.

Thursday, January 8th: BBQ ribs, potato puffs, mixed vegetables, pumpernickel bread, apricots.

Friday, January 9th: French onion soup, tuna salad on roll, pasta and pea salad, jello with topping.

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School Street Bistro Welcomes You To New Year's Eve

A la carte and prix fixe menu

A la carte includes salad

Prix fixe includes salad, appetizer or soup, choice of entree, dessert, coffee or tea.

Appetizers:

Zuppa di New Year's

Maine lobster with roasted red pepper and corn bisque

cup - \$4.50/bowl - \$5.95

Rock shrimp and angel hair fritters

deep fried whole wheat batter seasoned with lemongrass, oregano and chilis with sweet, hot and sour sauce

\$7.95

Calamari con crostini

calamari in a spicy jalapeno Bistro sauce over foccaccia crouton

\$7.95

Roasted Portabello Mushroom

with garlic herb goat cheese stuffing

\$7.95

Canadian Pork Roulade

tenderloin rolled with sundried cherries and figs in a dijon mustard bourbon brown sauce

\$7.95

Entrees:

Chicken Porcini Gorgonzola

sautéed with garlic, green onions and sherry tossed with penne

a la carte - \$17.95

Prix fixe - \$29.95

Bayou chicken

sautéed boneless skinless free range breast with Andouille sausage, artichoke hearts, fresh sage and thyme in a tomato reduction sauce served with Bistro polenta and vegetables

a la carte - \$18.95

Prix fixe - \$30.95

Bistro tenderloin

certified Black Angus medallions in a portabello mushroom gorgonzola roasted garlic demi-glace with smashed potatoes and vegetables

a la carte - \$22.95

Prix fixe - \$34.95

Pan-seared Salmon

black and white sesame crusted, presented with an Asian black bean butter, Bistro polenta and vegetables

a la carte - \$20.95

Prix fixe - \$32.95

Rack of New Zealand Lamb

char-grilled finished with a ginger hoisin glaze presented with smashed potatoes and vegetables

a la carte - \$24.95

Prix fixe - \$36.95

Red Snapper

oak grilled Florida Gulf filet finished with a prickly pear beurre blanc, Bistro polenta and vegetables

a la carte - \$23.95

Prix fixe - \$35.95

Desserts:

White chocolate mousse with cactus pear couli

\$5.95

Pate of Bittersweet Belgian chocolate with Sambuca

\$5.95

Espresso lemon zest cheesecake

\$5.95

Fresh fruit tart zabaglione

\$5.95

* Children's menu available upon request



SOME OF THE AGAWAM GOLDEN AGE CLUB members (Chapter I) who attended the Annual Christmas Dinner at Chez Jose included (standing, from left) - Mary DelNegro (president), Tom Zambrano, and Lucille Harpin. Seated - Rita Montagna, Alice Massa, and Dorothy Wright. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Golden Age Club I Gathers For Annual Christmas Dinner

The Agawam Golden Age Club, Chapter 1, had their traditional Christmas Meeting/Dinner at Chez Josef in Agawam Wednesday, Dec. 17th. The beautiful Christmas decorations help put all the members into the Christmas spirit of the day.

There was a social hour at 11:30 a.m. with refreshments of eggnog, cheese, and crackers.

Before the excellent meal was served at 12:30 p.m., president Mary DelNegro had a brief meeting starting with the Salute to the Flag, and Chaplain Evelyn O'Melia led the members in prayers, remembering members who were sick at home, in the hospital, nursing homes, and those that had passed away.

A prayer of thanksgiving was also said before the meal as well as a toast for a happy, healthy New Year for everyone and peace around the world.

There were many people to thank who helped make this a special event. Edward and Nellie Organek were in charge of arranging the place, meals, and the special gifts that were handed to all the members who attended. Cecilia Rebecchi, program chairman, arranged the entertainment of the day.

We certainly appreciate the time and efforts of Rose Paro and Loretta Wright for selling the tickets at the meetings and collecting them at the event, and Eva DeGrampre who handled the sitting arrangement as requested by the members.

All the officers are to be thanked also for their time and input to help make this an enjoyable day. They are Jeannette Dore, Dolores Gatti, Louise Balboni, Florida Tangocci, and Evelyn O'Melia.

The afternoon entertainment was provided by Vera Conway. Members joined in singing Christmas songs as well as a few members danced to some of the memory tunes of yesteryears.

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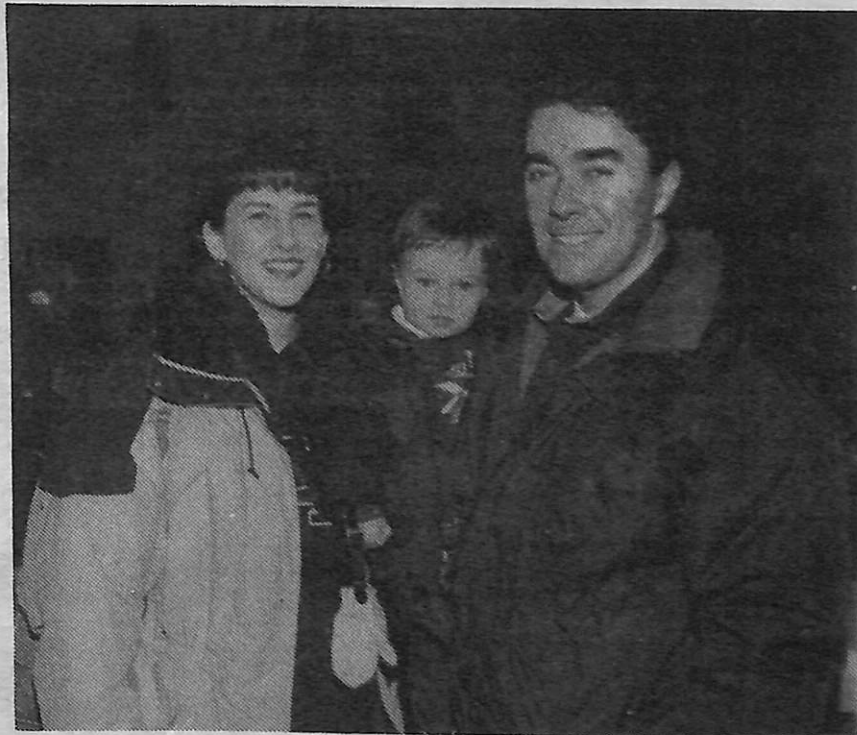


KEN MOYER (left), a resident of Country Estates Nursing & Rehab Center on Suffield Street, and his wife, Joyce, recently gave a talk to interested County Estates residents about the making of a 50th anniversary quilt made for Joyce Moyer's parents.

Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Holiday Greetings And Happy New Year

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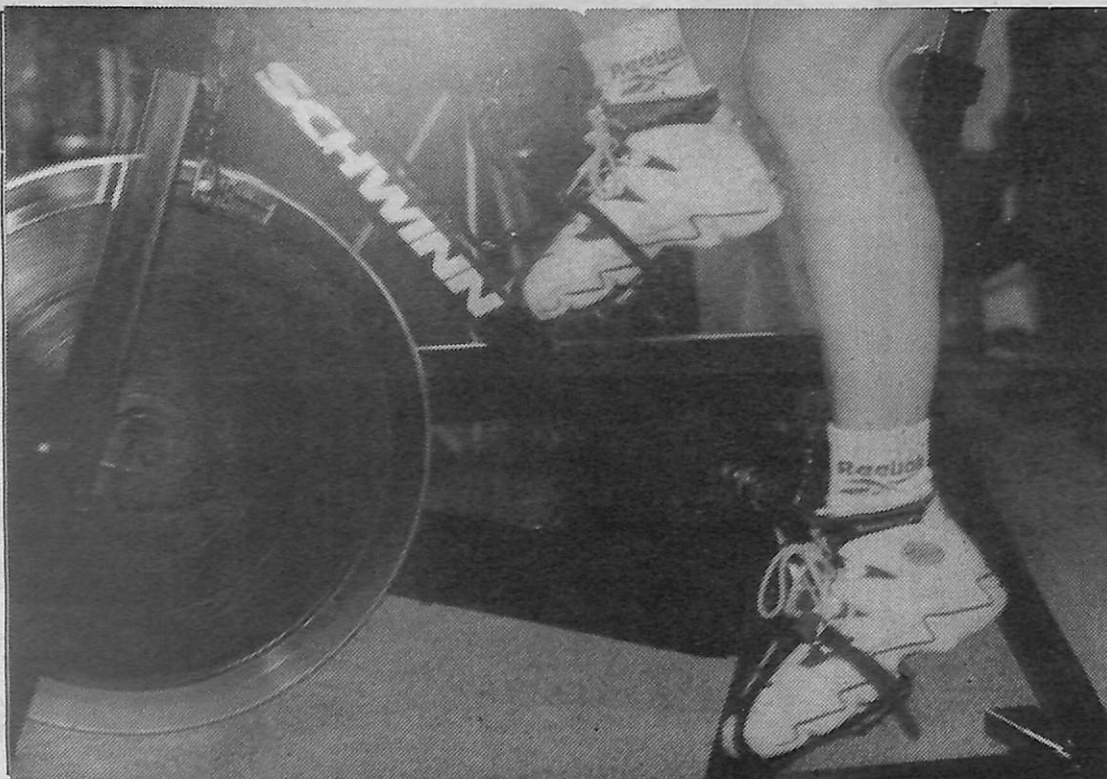


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Church News

Town Churches Together For Ecumenical Service



CLERGY FOR THE VARIOUS CHURCHES in Agawam, as well as members of the various congregations and parishes recently gathered for the Annual Holiday Ecumenical Service, this year held at St. David's Church. From left - Rev. John Parke, Rev. Robert Donaldson, Rev. Mr. James Martone, and Reverend Leonard Cowan (pastor of St. David's Church). AT RIGHT are members of the choir. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

PLEASE REMEMBER our next deadline is Tuesday, January 6th at noontime.



Richard W. Gallerani, OD
Julianne Rapalus Gallerani, OD

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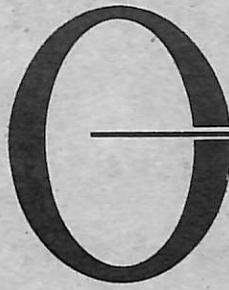
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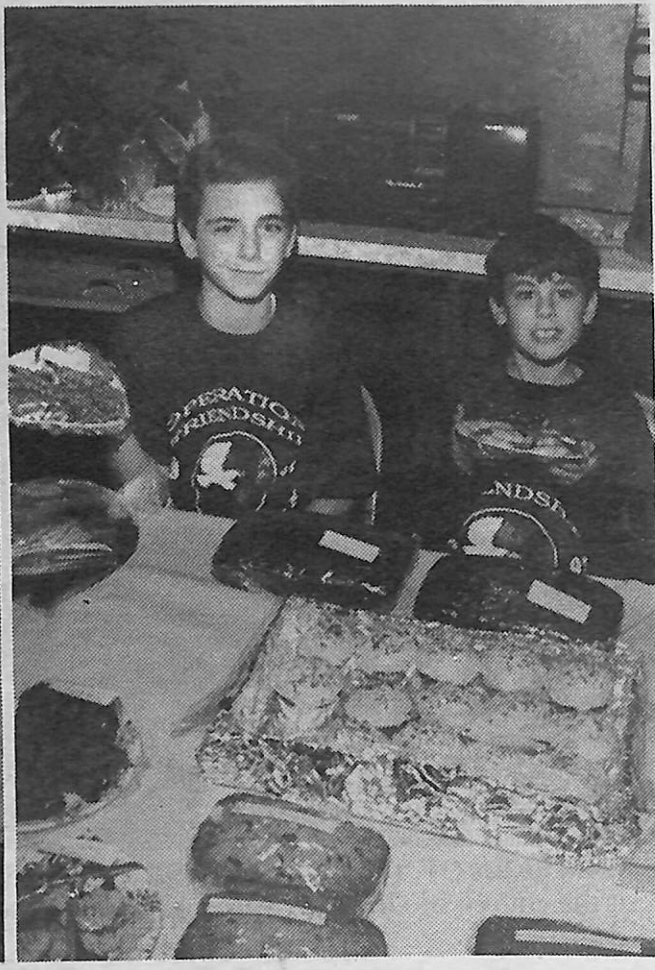
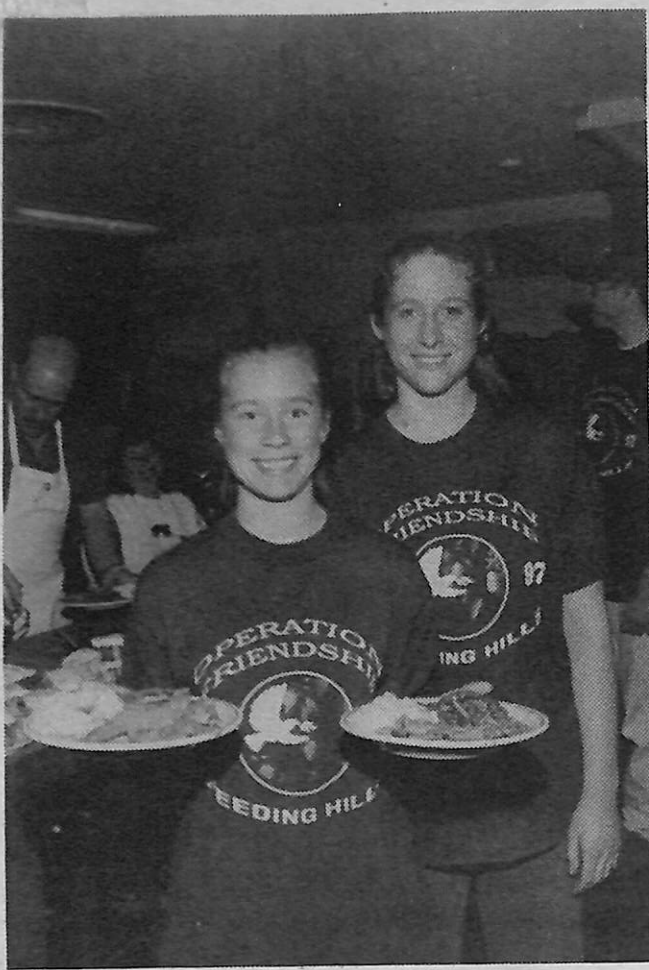
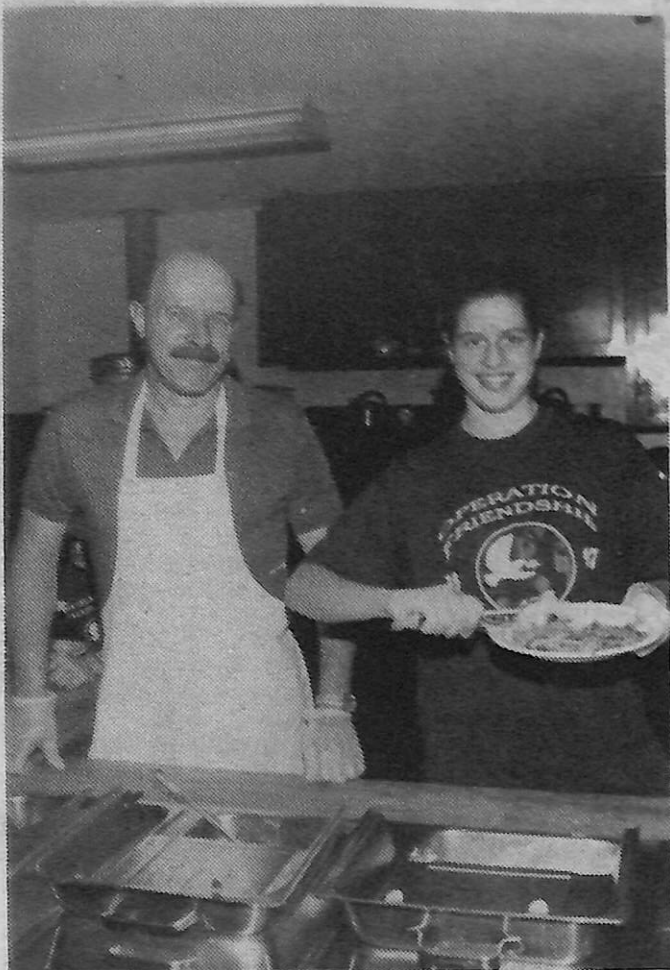
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Church News - continued...

Operation Friendship Supper At F.H. Congregational



OPERATION FRIENDSHIP, the youth international exchange group at Feeding Hills Congregational Church, held another of its regular roast beef suppers recently to raise funds for the summertime program. From left - David and Sarah Bates were two of the cooks; in middle photo - Jennifer McGuire and Nicole White were on the serving line; and Matt Couture and Richard Rozanski manned the baked goods table. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

———— CHECK OUR CLASSIFIED PAGES TODAY ————

O Come Let Us Adore Him

Christmas Services

Christmas Eve

5:00 P.M. Children's Service
11:00 P.M. Candlelight Service

Christmas Day

10:00 A.M. Christmas Day Eucharist

ST. DAVID'S

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

699 SPRINGFIELD STREET
FEEDING HILLS ~ 786-6133
REVEREND LEN COWAN



Church News - continued...

Holy Rosary Society At Storrowton



MEMBERS OF THE HOLY ROSARY SOCIETY of St. Anthony Church recently gathered at the church in Old Storrowton Village. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

News & Notes From F.H. Congregational

You're welcome to join with us at the Feeding Hills Congregational Church, which is located at 21 N. Westfield Street in Feeding Hills. Worship hour begins at 10:00 a.m.

The lectionary readings for Sunday, December 28th, are Ecclesiastes 3:1-17 and Colossians 3:12-17.

The Rev. Robert Loesch will be our guest pastor while the Donaldsons enjoy a vacation. His sermon title will be "What Do You Resolve?"

The Lector will be Matt Granger. Children should attend worship with their parents; nursery care will be provided for the very young.

The Board of Christian Education has planned a movie night for Friday, January 16th, at 7:00 p.m. It's not too early to think about which friends you'd like to invite to come along!

The Annual Meeting will take place at this church on Sunday, February 1, 1998 following morning worship.

If you are in charge of your committee's report, please check the January issue of *The Informer* for some helpful hints.

On the calendar:
Saturday, December 27th: Rev. Rob on vacation until January 2nd.

Sunday, December 28th: 10:00 a.m. Worship service with Rev. Loesch.

Monday, December 29th: 4:00 to 5:30 p.m., Girl Scouts; 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., Cub Scouts.

Tuesday, December 30th: 7:00 p.m., A.A.
Thursday, January 1st: Happy New Year to all! 7:00 p.m., A.A.

New Mass Schedule Released For St. Theresa & St. Anthony Churches

The parishioners and friends of St. Theresa of the Infant Jesus and St. Anthony of Padua Churches welcome Father William Rousseau as new administrator of both churches.

The Parish Councils and Finance Committees met recently with Father Bill to bring both parishes a new schedule of celebrating our being a family. We believe the new schedule provides for each parish to celebrate its individual identity as well as providing convenience and opportunity to celebrate our common goals and connectedness here on the "hill of Agawam."

We count on the sincerity, spirit, and support of all parishioners to make this truly the great parish adventure in our diocese.

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

December 24th: 4:00 p.m., St. Anthony's (Father

Sullivan).

December 24th: 5:00 p.m., St. Theresa's (Children's Mass, Father Bill).

December 24th: 12:00 midnight, St. Theresa's (Father Bill).

December 25th: 9:00 a.m., St. Anthony's (Father Sullivan).

December 25th: 11:00 a.m., St. Theresa's (Father Bill).

NEW YEAR'S SCHEDULE

December 31st: 6:30, Vigil, St. Anthony's (Father Bill).

January 1st: 9:00, St. Theresa's (Father Bill).

BEGINNING DECEMBER 29TH, THE FOLLOWING SCHEDULE WILL BE IN EFFECT:

Monday: 9:00, St. Theresa's.

Tuesday: 9:00, St. Theresa's.

Wednesday: 9:00, St. Theresa's.

Thursday: 7:00, St. Theresa's (evening).

Friday: 9:00, St. Anthony's.

Saturday: 9:00 a.m., St. Anthony's.

Saturday: 4:30 p.m., Vigil - St. Theresa's.

Sunday: 8:30, St. Anthony's.

Sunday: 11:00, St. Theresa's.

HOLY DAYS

- 6:30 p.m., Vigil - St. Anthony's.

- 9:00 a.m. on the Holy Day, St. Theresa's.

- 6:30 p.m. on the Holy Day, St. Theresa's.

CONFESSION

Saturday: 3:30 p.m., St. Theresa's.

Sunday: 9:15 to 9:45 a.m., St. Anthony's.

BAPTISM

Scheduled as needed (requested at either parish).



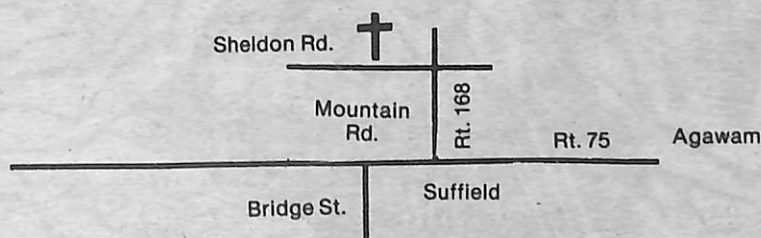
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Reverend Peter Monahan
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Need a New Year's Resolution suggestion?

Res-o-lu-tion (rez'ə loo'shən) n. 1. a) a resolving, or determining; deciding b) the thing determined upon; decision as to future action; resolve.

Why not make a resolution to join our church family? Our Seekers and Joiners Class will meet on January 15 at 7:00 P.M. Come and see what we're all about!

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to our Church

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Church News - continued...



Reflections...
submitted by
Rev. Peter Monahan
Pastor of the Church
of the Apostles,
Suffield, CT
(860) 668-4444 or
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Jesus Not Like Any Other Child

At Christmas, we celebrate the birth of a baby boy. Christmas is a birthday party. Everybody would agree Jesus was not like any other child who had ever been born. At the very least, no one else had ever had time itself measured from the date of his or her birth.

Jesus was significantly different from you or me in another way. Our births marked the beginning of our existence. In recent years, politicians and scientists have argued over just when we begin to exist. The Supreme Court has determined that for legal purposes, we don't exist until we breathe on our own.

Jesus, however, existed long before His birth. In John's Gospel we read: **In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through Him, and without Him not one thing came into being.** John opens his Gospel in words reminiscent of the Book of Genesis: **In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.**

Some might wonder why Jesus would be born when He was, if He existed since before the beginning of time. Couldn't He have come earlier? The Bible clearly answers those questions.

When humankind deliberately broke off our relationship with God by rebelling against His authority long, long ago, God immediately put in to place a plan of restoration. Human history tells us that people knew from the beginning that something was terribly wrong between us and God.

Since the dawn of the human era, people have always been religious. People have always sensed the need to repair the broken relationship with God. However, only God could fix what we had broken.

God always intended to restore humankind to friendship with himself. God's plan required thousands of years to be fully worked out, because God included people in His plan. If He had wanted to, God could have easily waved His hand and erased sin and sorrow from human experience.

But if He had done that, He would have also erased our ability and rights to exercise independent choices, what theologians call "free will." If God had done that, He would have reduced humankind to the moral status of animals, which live and act according to instinct rather than

Ski Sale At F.H. Congregational



THE ANNUAL SKI SALE to benefit Operation Friendship was held at Feeding Hills Congregational Church on Saturday, December 13th. From left - organizer Jerry Couture and his son, Jon, display some of the many variety of skis on sale; in photo right, Diane Flagg looks over the wide selection of boots. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

The first part of God's plan was to educate people about how we should live with Him in the world He had created for us. In Galatians we read: **Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. The law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. But when the fullness of time had come, God sent His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that**

we might receive adoption as children.

John's Gospel explains it this way: **He was in the world, and the world came into being through Him; yet the world did not know Him. But to all who received Him, who believed in His name, He gave power to become children of God. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made Him known.**

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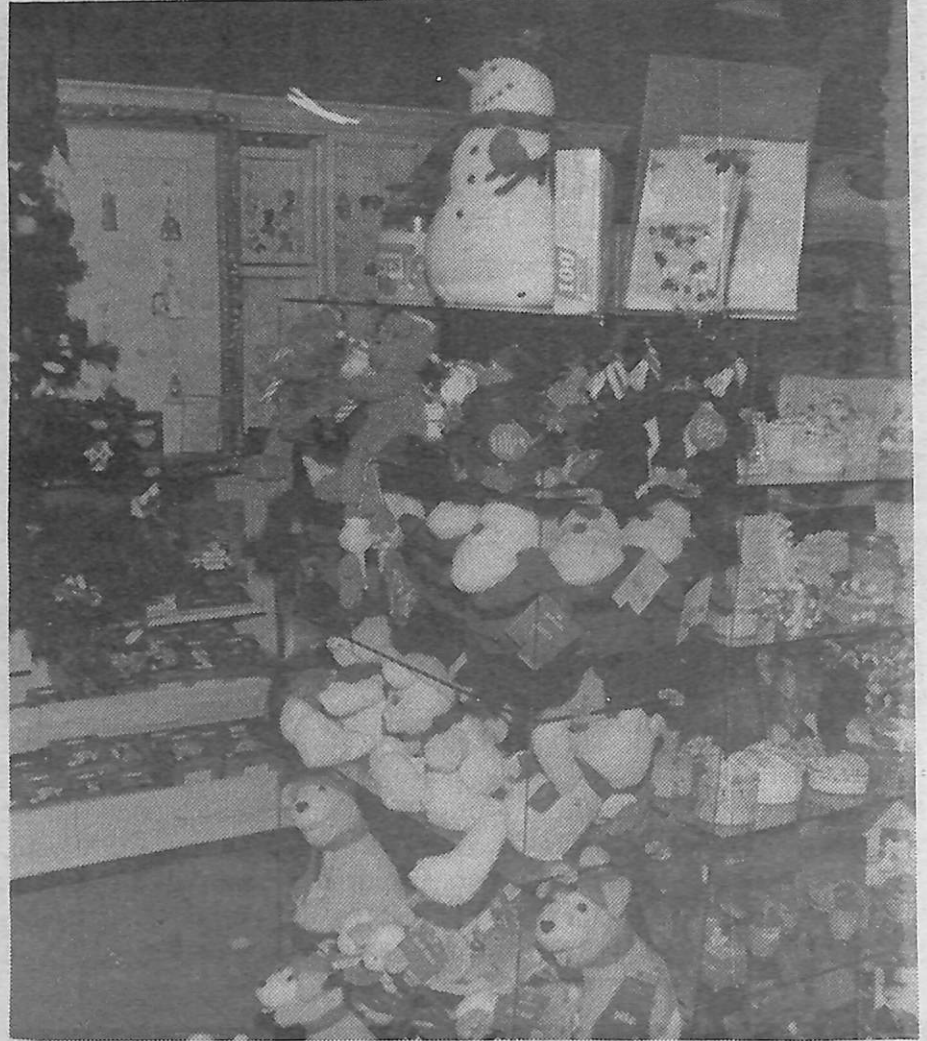
Tom Morris

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Spotlight On Business

Still Time To Shop Surprise!



SURPRISE! CARD & GIFT SHOP, located in the Southgate Shopping Plaza on Suffield Street, still has plenty of stocking stuffers, Christmas and New Year's cards available. Pictured is store employee Lillian Bonomi. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

Pioneer Real Estate Group Has Seminar On Dealing With Banks When Homebuying

The offices of **THE PIONEER GROUP** is sponsoring a free public service workshop entitled "Buying a Home...What the Banks Don't Tell You."

It will be held Saturday morning, January 17th between the hours of 10:00 and 11:30 at the West Springfield Professional Center, 1111 Elm Street, Suite 21, in West Springfield.

Topics to be discussed include the various government federal loan programs that are currently available to first-time and move-up homebuyers, understanding points and closing costs, and how to minimize these fees, understanding seller contributions, the difference between a bank and a mortgage company and which one offers the better value, and much more. The information contained in this 90-minute seminar may save today's first-time and move-up buyers thousands of dollars.

Speakers at the workshop include Donald Thompson, a Principal of **THE PIONEER GROUP**, and Raymond Rose, a retired mortgage banker.

The workshop is free of charge and reservations are suggested...their last seminar was filled to capacity. For more information, please listen to the recorded info message at 846-0981, and for reservations, please dial 731-6800.

Those that attend the workshop will receive a free copy of their credit report along with an application for a free mortgage pre-approval.

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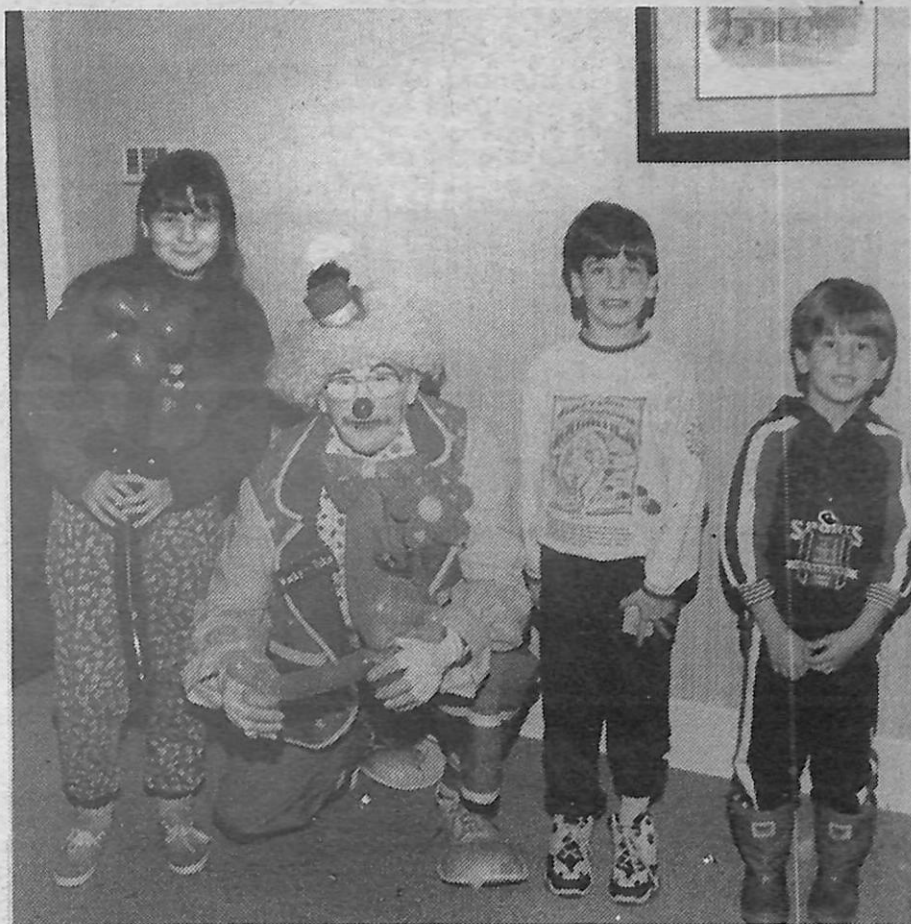
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Santa & Wacky Takis At Landmark Realtors



A black and white photograph of a young boy standing next to a large, seated Santa Claus figure. The boy is wearing a dark jacket and light-colored pants, and is holding a small object in his hands. Santa Claus is wearing a traditional suit with a large white beard and glasses. They are in a room decorated for Christmas, with a Christmas tree visible in the background.



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(Not Responsible For Typos)



For Your Health



IN PHOTO LEFT, Andy Dawson, the Easter Seals 1997 Richard A. LaPierre Pioneer Award winner, relays a story to a counselor at the Easter Seals' summer camp, Camp Becket; in photo right, Andy poses with his 40-inch trophy given to him at the Easter Seals Annual Meeting.

Andy Dawson Of Agawam Named As Pioneer Award Winner By Easter Seals

Easter Seals recently awarded Andy Dawson of Agawam the 1997 *Richard A. LaPierre Pioneer Award* at a presentation held during the Easter Seals' 54th Annual Meeting.

The debut of the 1st Annual *Richard A. LaPierre Pioneer Awards* honors the "Pioneering Spirit" demonstrated by individual children with disabilities. The award showcases the personal strength of the recipient, who was the first youngster with a disability to participate fully in the social and educational aspects of a summer camp which able-bodied children have enjoyed for over 90 years.

Eight-year-old Dawson was recognized for the "trailblazing spirit" he demonstrated this summer, while attending Camp Becket, in Becket, Mass. While attending Camp Becket, Dawson enjoyed canoeing, making friends, and fine-tuning his skills at archery. His participation demonstrated to other campers and counselors

that children with disabilities can make contributions to nearly every aspect of camp life.

When asked about his experience at Becket, Dawson bluntly declared, "I liked it a lot! There was so much to do there, and I made a lot of new friends, too."

The Award recognizes Dawson as a pioneer who serves as a role model to other children with disabilities, proving that there are no insurmountable challenges and spurring them to investigate

programs and activities in their own communities.

In addition to enjoying a summer filled with sports, recreation, and arts and crafts activities, Dawson also forged lasting friendships with many fellow campers. Prior to his Camp Becket adventures, Dawson had experienced camp life at one of the Easter Seal Summer Camp Programs in Maine.



ANDY DAWSON is presented the 1997 *Richard A. LaPierre Pioneer Award* by Kirk Joselin, Easter Seals president.

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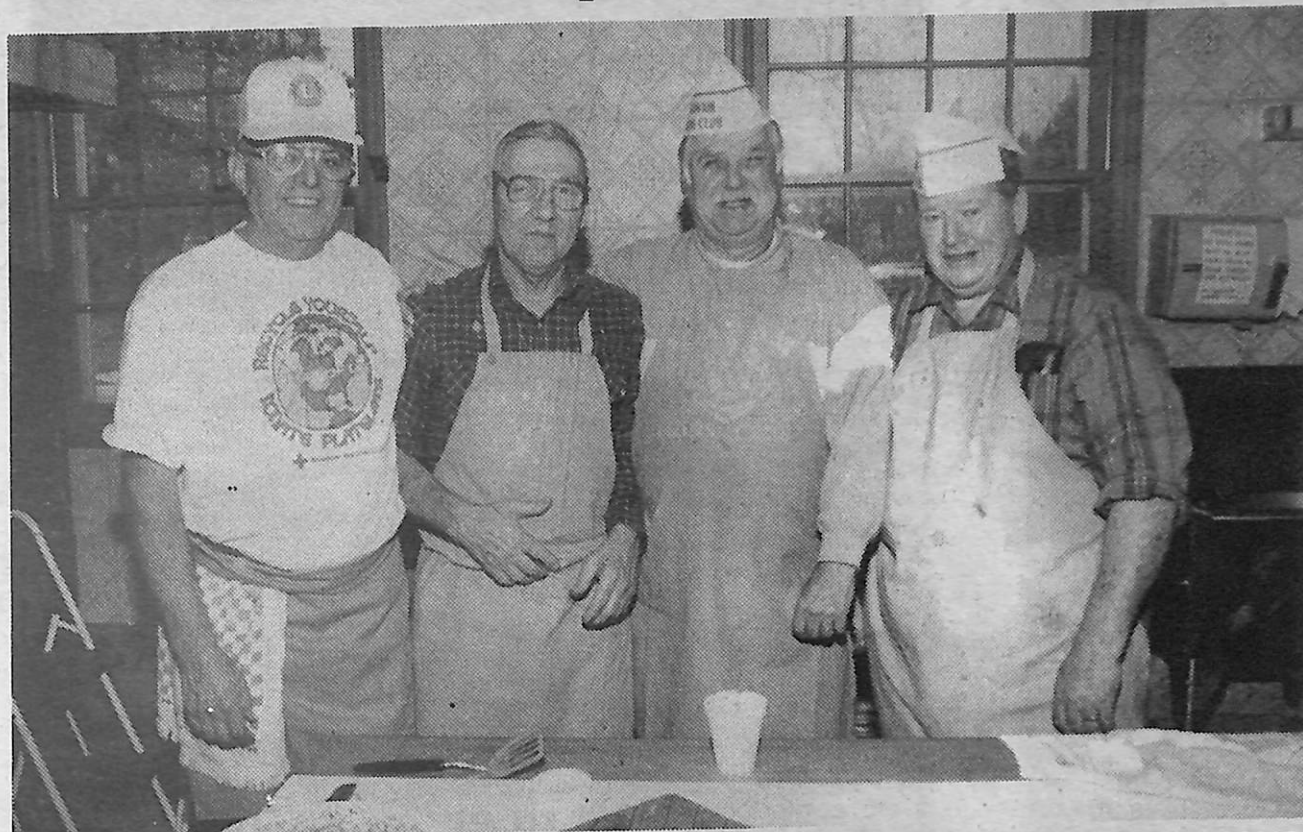
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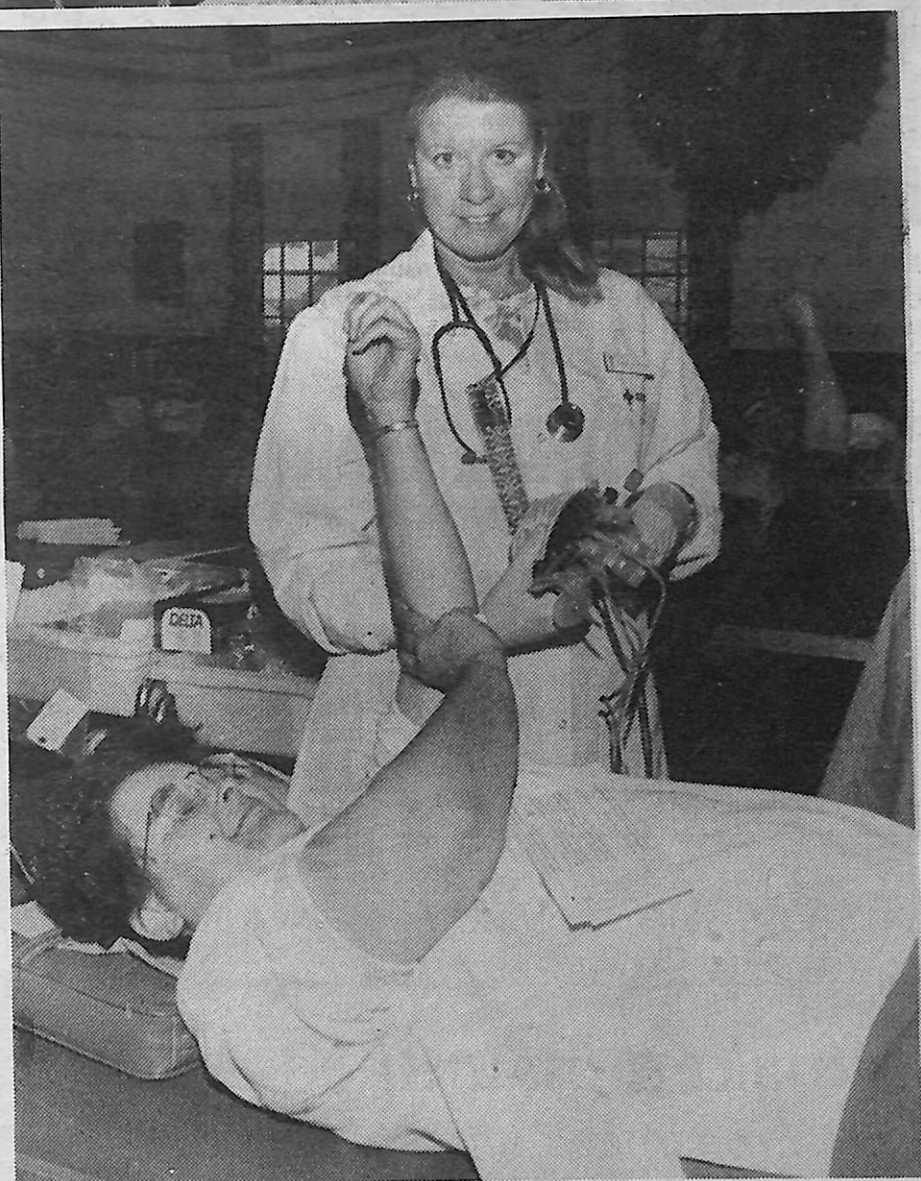
For Your Health - continued...

Lions Club Sponsors Blood Drive



THE AGAWAM LIONS Club recently sponsored a Blood Drive at the Agawam Congregational Church. All blood donors received a free pancake breakfast. IN TOP PHOTO, Lions members Dick Bassett, Matt Blackak, Jack Conroy, and Lyman Simpson worked the kitchen; in photo left, R.N. Debbie Lafreniere has just taken some blood from Louise Fuller. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

For the best in local goods and services, be sure to check our classified ads each and every week; you'll be glad you did — Advertiser News!!!



Effective Parenting Being Sponsored At Mercy Hospital

Most people are less prepared for parenthood than for any other role in their lives.

Learn to understand and appreciate the stages of a child's development with "Effective Parenting," a six-week series sponsored by the Family Life Center at Mercy Hospital, in conjunction with Brightside Counseling Associates. The program begins Wednesday, Jan. 7th, 9:00-11:00 a.m. in the hospital's Deliso Conference Center, 299 Carew St.

Topics will include talking effectively with children, positive discipline, understanding negative behavior, resolving specific situations, temperament, parenting styles, and family atmospheres.

Cost for the program is \$60 and advance registration is required. For more information, call the Family Life Center's Parenting Education Department, (413) 748-7295.

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Keep Holidays Positive!

Now that I have your attention, let's take a look at the holidays with two versions:

1) **Miss Ease** - gracefully enters the holiday season shopping, planning, and having a good time.

2) **Miss Dis-ease** - stressed out, unhappy, nervous, and miserable.

What's the difference between the two? Miss Ease has a healthy spine! Well, what you mean? I don't get it. Let's think about this.

The spine is made of 24 movable bones. These bones house the spinal cord, which is composed of nerves, which comprise the nervous system. When everything with the spine is functioning 100 percent, there are no problems. If the spine is not moving or functioning properly, this can upset the nervous system and cause stress and anxiety.

LET'S DISCUSS SIX WAYS TO KEEP A HEALTHY SPINE THIS HOLIDAY SEASON.

1. **POSTURE** - Keep your spine straight. As your mother used to say, "Sit up straight." She was right! Back support pillows help with sitting up straight. These are the perfect gift for the holidays.

2. **WEIGHT** - Keep your weight within an ideal range. Even five to 10 extra pounds can put extra pressure on the spine.

3. **LIFTING** - Keep the spine straight. Put a bend in the knees and don't twist the back.

4. **BALANCE** - Be careful with heavy pocket-books, bags, etc., which can throw the body off balance. Invest in quality mattresses, chairs, and shoes. These are items we spend a lot of time in or on, so it is important not to compromise with quality.

5. **ATTITUDE** - We know the mind and body are connected. If you are sad, your posture reflects that. Very rarely do you see someone who's happy and enthusiastic with slumped shoulders and bent over. So if you wake up a little tired, groggy, and sad, throw back those shoulders and put your head up. Your mind will be sure to follow!

6. **CHIROPRACTIC CARE** - As a chiropractor, I'm interested in how the spine is moving or functioning and I want to keep it moving properly. A chiropractor looks at the big picture; what you may be doing to affect your spine. GET CHECKED BY A CHIROPRACTOR TO KEEP YOUR SPINE HAPPY AND HEALTHY THIS HOLIDAY SEASON!

Dr. Nelson maintains an office at Hampden County Chiropractic, 850 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills. She is available to answer questions on Monday and Wednesday from 1:00-2:00 p.m. at 786-4820.

Fitness Tips...

Keep Kids Going

by Garen Stoehr
Fitness First's Fitness Director

The statistics show us that by the time our kids enter high school, 63 percent are no longer physically active. Your kids will try to tell you that video games help to increase their hand/eye coordination. This may be true, but don't you agree that their overall physical health should not take a back seat?

There is no better way to change your children's habits than to be an active role model. Showing them that you go to the gym or run for an hour is not enough. You need to pedal an accessible bike trail or hike in a local forest *together*.

Developmentally, it is important to start our children young. Studies have shown that children who are consistently active have fewer health-related problems, have greater confidence, and a more positive self-image. These characteristics are what we pray for every day and every night.

Since I am putting the ball in the parents' corner, I need to give a few helpful hints. Not all children are considered limber or injury-resistant. You must take the time to stretch before any strenuous activity.

Secondly, the activity needs to be fun and, in order to do that, you may need to be a little creative. It is important to avoid competition, discipline, and embarrassment. If you need a reward system for your child, make it for obtaining a certain goal other than coming in first place.

Remember, take the time to plan frequent outings and activities. You will find that not only will your children get adequate exercise, but will strengthen your relationships. You may find children's activities in your local school flyers or contact a health club in your area.

Noble Hospital To Sponsor Novice Tai Chi Course

Noble Hospital in Westfield will sponsor a beginners' Tai Chi course. The eight-session series will begin on Tuesday, January 6, 1998 in Conference Room A at the hospital.

The time of the course is from 6:15-7:15 p.m. The cost of the eight-part series is \$48 per person. Enrollment is limited and pre-registration is required.

To register, send name, address, and telephone number along with a \$48 check, payable to Noble Hospital to Noble Hospital Cardiac Rehab Department, P. O. Box 1634, Westfield, MA 01086-1634.

best local news...

Support Offered For New Mothers At Mercy Hospital

New mothers are invited to share their questions and concerns at a New Mothers' Support Group, sponsored by the Family Life Center at Mercy Hospital. The next sessions will take place January 7th and 21st, 10:30-11:30 a.m., in the Family Life Center lounge.

Meetings are open to mothers with babies up to a year old, and offer the opportunity to talk with professionals from the Family Life Center's Parenting Education Department and share experiences and information with other new mothers.

Topics include newborn care, infant feeding, postpartum concerns, returning to work, and parenting issues. Babies and partners are welcome to attend.

For more information and to register, call the Family Life Center, (413) 748-7295.

Cancer Group Can Benefit Children Of Cancer Patients

Learning that your parent has cancer is difficult for children of all ages. But discovering you're not alone and sharing your feelings and concerns with others in the same situation can help.

Children of cancer patients now have that opportunity, through a new support group at Mercy Hospital. The group's next meeting will take place Monday, January 5th, 7:00 p.m., in the hospital's Deliso Conference Center.

Meetings are led by skilled facilitators from Mercy Hospital's Pastoral Care Department and are free of charge. Persons of all ages are welcome.

For more information, call the Pastoral Care Department, (413) 748-9453.

Breast Cancer Group At Women's Pavilion At Mercy Hospital

The Breast Cancer Support Group, sponsored by the Women's Pavilion at Mercy Hospital, will meet January 6th and 20th, 7:00-8:30 p.m., in the Women's Pavilion, 299 Carew St.

The group is open to women who have experienced mastectomy and other breast surgery, or who have been diagnosed with breast cancer. Family and friends are welcome to attend and share their experiences and concerns.

For more information, call the Women's Pavilion, (413) 748-9080.

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Arts



KRISTIN GRANT will be opening the 1998 calendar year for the Agawam Community Artists

Community Artists To Begin 1998 With Artist Kristin Grant

The Agawam Community Artists will begin their 1998 program schedule on January 8th, at 7:00 p.m. at the Captain Leonard House, 663 Main Street, Agawam.

This month's featured artist, Ms. Kristin Grant, is a fine arts major with a Master's in Clinical Social Work, from Smith College. Ms. Grant is currently involved in multi-media projects.

Oils, acrylics, land sculpting with rocks, flowers, writing in several forms, and photography are but a few areas of interest to this multi-talented artist. Much of her work envelopes the theme of the mermaid as metaphor and often connects and parallels these multi-media projects.

Please join us for a most interesting and informative evening with Kristin. Under the auspices of the Agawam Cultural Council, the Agawam Community Artists' meetings are open to the public free of charge.

For additional information, please call Florida Tangocci at 786-3689.

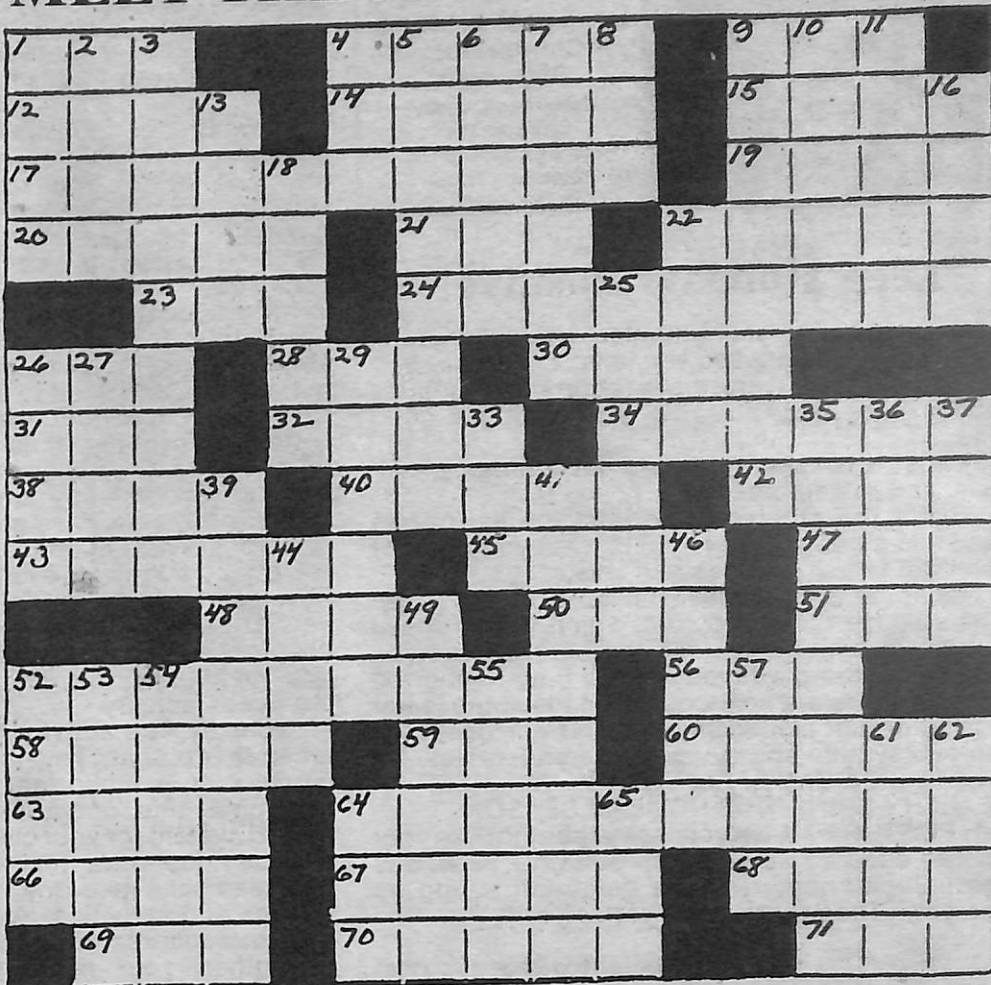
ACROSS

- 1 "It — only a paper moon"
- 4 Scents
- 9 Sea (Fr.)
- 12 Baseball's Hersher
- 14 Kitchen tool
- 15 Singer Burl
- 17 Biggest little city
- 19 Roman evening
- 20 Billiards shot
- 21 Longshoreman's org.
- 22 Antonio's fiddle
- 23 Beast of burden
- 24 Pine State city or river
- 26 Nobel invention
- 28 Prefix for three
- 30 "Star —"
- 31 King (Fr.)
- 32 Golfer Ballesteros
- 34 "— over" (conveyed to)
- 38 Buck or kang follower
- 40 "— — hand" (assist)
- 42 Pianist Peter
- 43 Hindu invocation
- 45 Golfing basic
- 47 Tool shop container
- 48 Type of bag
- 50 Compass heading
- 51 Picnic pest
- 52 Longhorn State metropolis
- 56 Mustangs' school
- 58 President from Quincy
- 59 Matched sets (abbr.)
- 60 Tick followers
- 63 Dr. Zhivago's love
- 64 Lake Erie port
- 66 Ness and crew
- 67 French river
- 68 Actress Carter
- 69 Asner et al
- 70 Feel intuitively
- 71 Famous John

DOWN

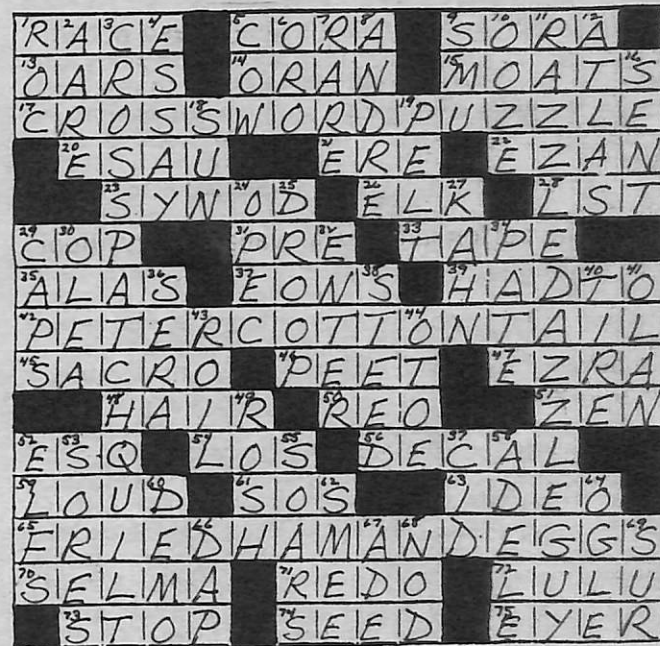
- 1 It often turns?
- 2 Region
- 3 Feeling
- 4 Mine product
- 5 Causing disagreement
- 6 Florida city
- 7 Edit
- 8 Senora for short
- 9 In the wrong
- 10 "If — — should lose ..."
- 11 Showed over
- 13 Business bust
- 16 Infamous Marquis
- 18 Cozy spots
- 22 Peter Pan pirate

MEET THE MASTER — by Dick Mastroianni



- 25 Admit to the ministry
- 26 Mine car
- 27 Asta's mistress
- 29 Pass the word
- 33 "White Cliffs" country
- 35 Corrupted
- 36 Actress Moran
- 37 Word of caution
- 39 Foot rests
- 41 Chests of drawers
- 44 Decays
- 46 Basil and garlic sauce
- 49 Bare all
- 52 Mr. Disney
- 53 "... is nothing like —"
- 54 Showed concern
- 55 Actor Richard
- 57 "— Over Miami"
- 61 Metric measure
- 62 Foot part
- 64 "— the season to be ..."
- 65 Ruby or Sandra

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Spend A Day With The Dinosaurs At Science Museum

The Sunday Family Program series at the Springfield Museums will continue on January 11th with "Dinomite Dinosaurs." Activities will take place from 12:00 noon until 4:00 p.m. at the Springfield Science Museum and are free with the price of museum admission.

Colleen Kelly, better known as "Stella Stegosaurus," will give storytelling presentations at 12:30 and 2:00 p.m. (seating is limited). Ongoing activities from 12:00 noon to 4:00 p.m. will include:

- Design a paper bag dinosaur puppet.
- Create an original "scratch-a-saurus" work of art.
- Make a dinosaur magnet for your refrigerator.
- See clowns sculpt balloons into all sorts of dinosaur shapes.
- Visit the museum's Dinosaur Hall to see a life-sized Tyrannosaurus Rex and learn more about these prehistoric creatures.

The museum is located at the Quadrangle on the corner of State and Chestnut Streets in downtown Springfield. Admission is \$4 for adults, \$1 for children six to 18 years of age, and free for children under six and members. (Group rates are available; call [413] 263-6800, ext. 472.)

The single admission fee provides entry to all four museums at the Quadrangle. For information, call (413) 263-6800, ext. 488.

"Paul Robeson" To Be Presented In West Springfield

Director of Public Relations Lee Chambers of the The Theater Project has announced the performance schedule for its production of "Paul Robeson" at the Majestic Theater in West Springfield.

Performances will be presented Tuesday, Jan. 20th, Wednesday, Jan. 21st, Thursday, Jan. 22nd, Tuesday, Jan. 27th, Wednesday, Jan. 28th, and Thursday, Jan. 29th at 9:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.; Thursday, Feb. 5th, Friday, Feb. 6th, Saturday, Feb. 7th, 8:00 p.m.; and Tuesday, Feb. 10th, Wednesday, Feb. 11th, and Thursday, Feb. 12th, 9:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.

Daytime performances are available for school bookings.

The Majestic Theater is located at 131 Elm Street in West Springfield. There is a 180 seat capacity, with wheelchair accessibility. Tickets can be obtained by calling the Majestic Theater box office at (413) 747-7797.

Local Band to Play Daddy-o's Coffee House



NEW UNIT, an Agawam based punk band, is booked to play Daddy-o's Coffee House at 296 Worthington Street in Springfield on Saturday, December 27th. The band members are Neil Butler, 16, vocals; Steven Messina, 15, bass; Phil Bonk, 17, guitar; Josh Roberts, 15, guitar; and Anthony Marsyalek, 15, drums. This is the premiere performance for the boys who have a 10 song demo available. For info, call 789-7142.

PLEASE REMEMBER our next deadline is **Tuesday, January 6th at noontime.** The office will be open during the weekdays between Christmas and New Year's but our staff will be in and out during the day.

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Education



MRS. SANTA CLAUS represented her husband at the Agawam Early Childhood Center on December 17th. Mrs. Claus is pictured with Stephanie Savard (left) and William Howe. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.



AGAWAM JUNIOR WOMEN'S CLUB MEMBERS Laurie Snow and Paula Macaulay stopped by the Agawam Early Childhood Center to collect gifts donated by the kids for the club's Annual Holiday Basket Project. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Early Childhood Ctr. Collects Presents For Holiday Basket Project

On December 17th, members of the Agawam Junior Women's Club visited the Agawam Early Childhood Center to collect presents donated by the students in lieu of a holiday party.

Each child brought a gift worth approximately \$3 to be donated to the Christmas Holiday Baskets collected by the Club. These gifts and baskets were delivered on Saturday, December 20th, to several families in Agawam.

The members were greatly impressed by the children's generosity and spirit of giving during this holiday season. We wish to thank you all once again for your help and contributions towards this community holiday effort.

The Agawam Junior Women's Club is a member of the General Federation of Women's Clubs and the General Federation of Women's Clubs of Massachusetts.

Agawam Schools' Weekly Lunch Menu

Wednesday, December 24th through Friday, January 2nd: Christmas vacation (schools closed).

Monday, January 5th: Pepperoni-topped pizza, seasoned green beans, chilled pineapple tidbits, milk.

Tuesday, January 6th: Hamburg in roll, steamed parsley rice, tossed garden salad with spinach greens and dressing, chocolate cake with mocha icing, milk.

Wednesday, January 7th: Diced chicken pieces with gravy on whipped potatoes, seasoned peas and carrots, bread and butter, baked apple crisp, milk.

Thursday, January 8th: Rotini with meat sauce, seasoned broccoli cuts, Italian bread and butter, chilled fruit cup or jello with topping, milk.

Friday, January 9th: Chicken teriyaki dippers, oven potato puffs, seasoned peas and carrots, wheat bread and butter, rosy applesauce, milk.

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF AGAWAM AGAWAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION

The Agawam Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on Thursday, January 8, 1998 at 7:45 PM in the Faolin Peirce Community Room, Agawam Police Station, 681 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, MA. The purpose of this hearing is to hear the petition of Omniprint Communications, MB Operations, Inc. for work to be performed on 1804 Main Street, subject to the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act.

By Order of Henry A. Kozloski, Chairman
Agawam Conservation Commission
Published: December 23, 1997

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Local Pet Store Helping To Sponsor Students' Recognition

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

The Junior High PTO is taking a local businessman's idea to reward students for their classroom performance one step further.

Each month, teachers at the elementary schools, Middle School, and Junior High School can select one student in their classrooms for the "Student of the Month" award and a coupon good for a free tropical fish from a local pet supply company.

Junior High Assistant Principal Marc Costanzi said the PTO was so impressed with the program, they have signed on to award a \$50 savings bond each month (in a random drawing) to one of the students designated as a classroom student of the month.

Dave Ratner, owner of **Dave's Soda and Pet Food City** on Ramah Circle, said he wanted to give something back to the community, and the focus, just naturally, seemed to be on the kids.

After all, the pet industry is kid-oriented, he noted. "Kids are the ones who convince their parents to buy the fish, birds, hamsters, and rabbits, as well as all of the food, toys, and equipment the pets will need."

"The program is not a 'hook' to get kids and parents to buy something in my store," Ratner continued. "We give them a Betta fish, a fishbowl, and enough food to last 10 years."

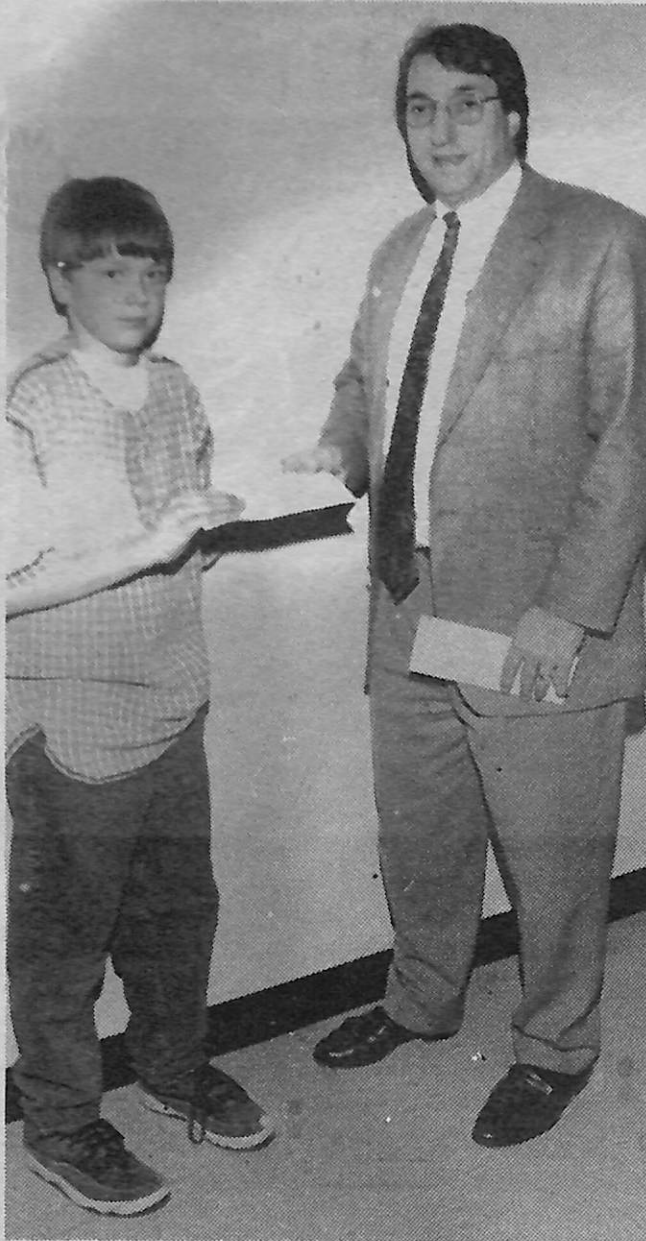
The idea behind the "Student of the Month" Program is to allow teachers to set their own parameters for giving out the awards so that average kids can be recognized for their accomplishments, even though they are not straight-A students, Ratner said.

"The way the program started is twofold," Ratner explained. "I'm always looking for ways to do things for the community. They take care of me and it's a way to pay them back. I wanted something where the average kid can get some kind of reward. I'm a big believer in positive reinforcement."

Rewarding "Most Improved" Students...

Costanzi said the 55 teachers at the Junior High are using the program to reward students who may have shown the most improvement in a month or who may have done something outstanding during the month.

"The PTO was very anxious to pick up on what Dave Ratner was doing. The only thing they stipulated was that no student can win a savings bond more than once," Costanzi said. "It's a nice thing for the kids to look forward to and it makes



AGAWAM JUNIOR HIGH ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL Marc Costanzi presents "Student of the Month" Award to Corey O'Connor (left, October) and to Ericc Powell (November). Each received a \$50 savings bond. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

the program that much more enjoyable for the kids."

"I think it's a wonderful idea for the Junior High PTO to join in the program," Ratner said. "It makes me feel good that the parents are saying, 'Good job, Dave.'"

Ratner, a self-described "terrible student and class clown," launched the "Student of the Month" Program last February in the Springfield Schools, where the kids took home more than

1,000 awards during the last five months of the school year.

Besides getting a tropical fish when they redeem their coupons at the pet store, the students receive a certificate of award from Ratner's staff.

"The kids are so proud when they come in with their parents and my people really make a big deal out of it," Ratner said.

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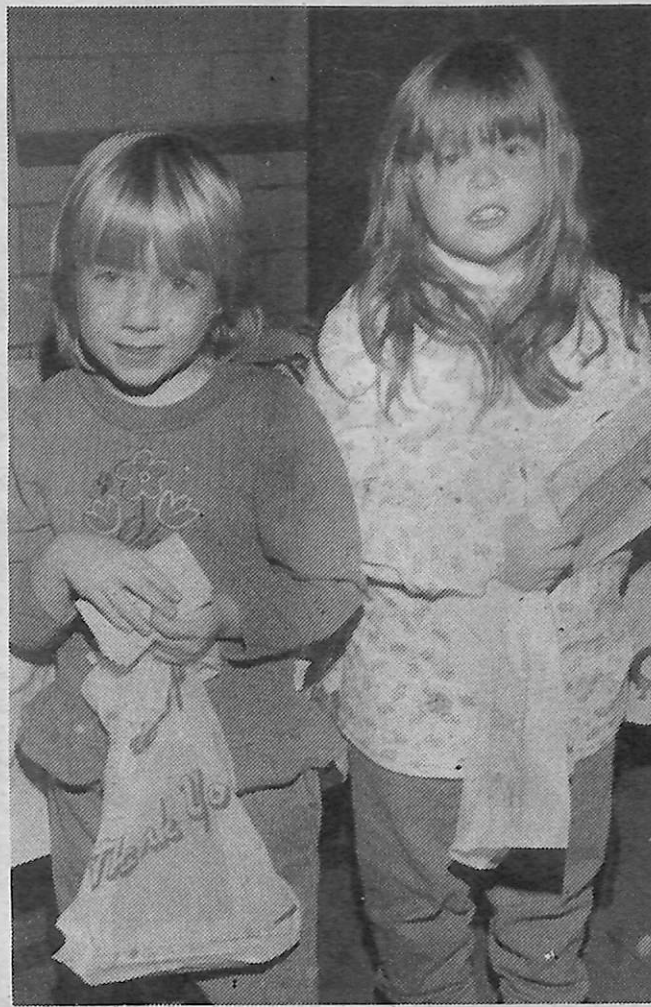
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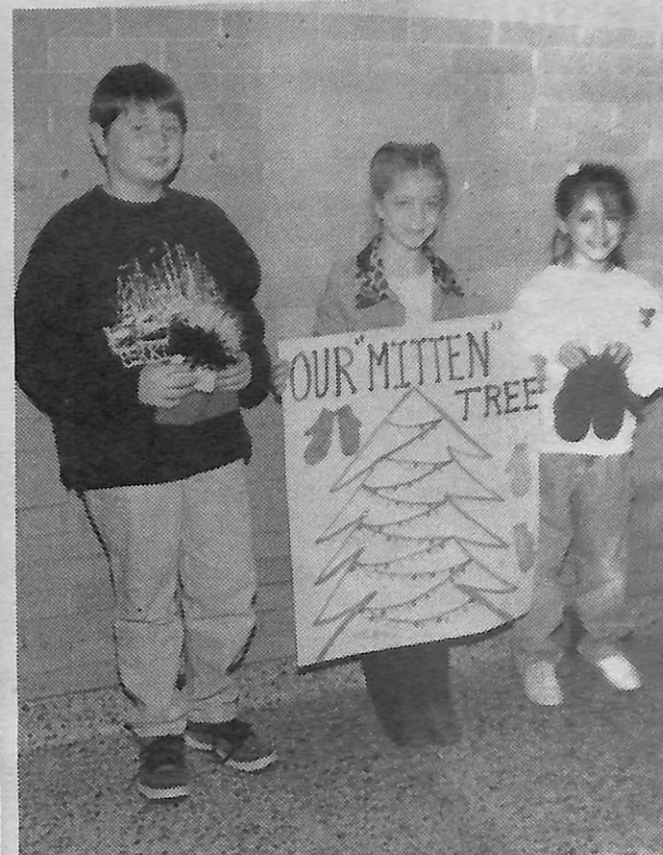
Serving The Agawam Area For 15 Years

Christmas Store At Granger School



BUYING CHRISTMAS GIFTS at Granger School's Christmas Store included, from left - Brittney Twohig, Brandon Learned, Emily Mias, and Brianna Gewett. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

Mitten Tree At Phelps



PHELPS SCHOOL CHILDREN held their final week of giving, December 8th to 12th. A special "Mitten Tree" was created to accept hats, mittens, and scarfs for donation to a local women's shelter in the area. Children in photo include Michael Longhi, Shaunna Howe, and Meaghan Serra. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Top Jr. High Fundraisers Named



CONGRATULATIONS TO MONICA DAVILLI (second from left) and to **NICOLAS KROLICKI** (center) for being the top girls' seller and top boys' seller, respectively, of this year's magazine sale. They were rewarded with their limo ride, along with Lucy Young and Joel Howe (other outstanding sellers), to MacDonald's for a meal and then a ride back home.

Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Info Meeting Being Held For Those Interested In St. Thomas School

For families interested in learning more about St. Thomas School, 75 Pine Street, West Springfield, both the full-day kindergarten and other grades as well, there will be an informational meeting for parents on Wednesday, January 14th at 7:00 p.m. in the Women's Club Room of the school.

Tours will be conducted at that time.

Registration for kindergarten at St. Thomas the Apostle School in West Springfield, for the fall of 1998, will be held as follows: Tuesday, Jan. 20th,

for siblings of children already in the school; Wednesday, Jan. 21st for St. Thomas parishioners; Thursday, Jan. 22nd, for all other interested families.

Registration takes place from 9:00-10:00 a.m. and parents **must** provide child's social security number as well as a **copy** of the birth and baptismal certificates to be retained by the school.

Children must be five years of age according to the requirement of the city or town in which they reside.

Frank Maniscalco Admitted As Attorney

In a ceremony held at historic Faneuil Hall in Boston on December 16th, Frank S. Maniscalco was admitted as an attorney to the Massachusetts Bar and received his certificate to practice law in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Attorney Frank S. Maniscalco is a 1990 graduate of Agawam High School. He received a Bachelor of Science degree, magna cum laude, from Western New England College in 1994 and a Juris Doctor from Suffolk University Law School in 1997.

Currently, he is employed as a contracts representative for GTE Internetworking in Cambridge, MA.

He is the son of Tony and Rosemarie Maniscalco of Agawam.

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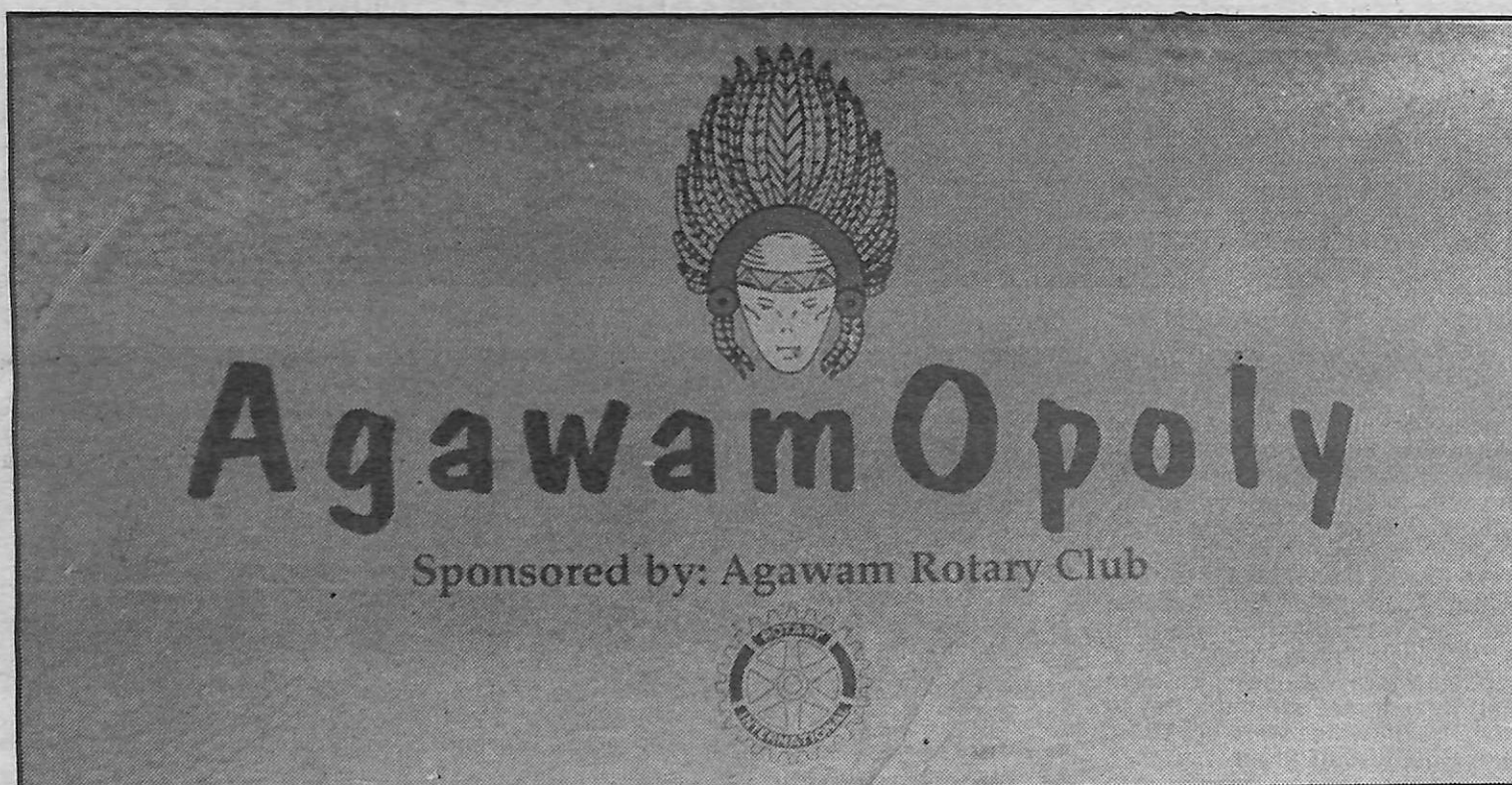


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Sports

AHS Girls Make Scrambled Eggs Out Of N.J. Foe In Coke Classic

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

Occasionally, when you are playing a team for the first time, and they are from a place far away that has a big-time basketball reputation, you tend to get excited.

"Yeah, we were building them up, mostly because we didn't know what to expect," Agawam point guard Kristen Patterson said after the Brownies met and scrambled Egg Harbor Township High School of New Jersey last Saturday night, 61-34. The inaugural Coca-Cola High School Classic was the tournament. Blake Arena on the campus of Springfield College was the venue.

New Jersey brings up visions of high school basketball dominance. Western Mass probably still has a way to go in the national scheme of things. But you would never know it on this night, as the Brownies, a premiere Massachusetts team, had no problems at all handling the "eggs."

Egg Harbor, which is just outside of Atlantic City, came in off a 20-8 season in the Cape Athletic League, where they got all the way to the state sectionals. "We have 20 teams in our League. It's pretty tough. We lost four seniors, all starters, last year to graduation. We're hurting," Coach Sam Botta admitted before the game. They hurt a lot more as the evening went along.

Agawam started their defensive set with an intense man-to-man. The Eagles, as the girls from Egg Harbor are called, did the same. It was obvious early that Agawam had the quickness and the height and were willing to rumble down low.

Junior six-foot center Pia Bertone-Gross (13 points, 5-10, 3-4 fts, eight rebounds) is learning that if you are going to play that position, you had better be ready to make heavy contact. She did just that. It didn't matter who Egg Harbor sent down low to defend her; Bertone-Gross would give them the hip and the body. She turned it around on defense, banging the Eagle offenders out of the lane.

With 4:39 to go in the first quarter, Agawam was up, 8-2. Their defense was keyed at the time by Melissa Cote (seven points, 3-3 including a three, six rebounds), who was meeting and disrupting the Egg Harbor offense before they could cross midcourt.

With 1:33 to go, the Eagles had closed it to 10-8. They would never get closer than that. Bertone-Gross sank two of two from the line. Barbara Maloni (19 points, 7-23 including a three, 4-8 fts, two rebounds) dropped a three. Amber Conte (11 points, 4-4 including three threes) drilled a trey to end the first quarter. The Brownies were up, 18-10.

The Brownies' Full-Court Press...

Agawam started out the second quarter in a full-court press. With 2:25 gone, they led, 21-12. Patterson, running the offense the way a good point guard should, hit a three at 4:37 to make it 24-12, Agawam. Bertone-Gross was still dominating down low. So was Cote.

And the transition game, an Agawam trademark for years under Coach Lou Conte, was as sharp as a surgeon's scalpel. "We really didn't know much about them. And that made the kids a little nervous at first. We just played our game and things worked out for us," Conte smiled afterwards. The Brownies were into their full-court press for most of the second quarter. "They were a very fast group of athletes," Botta admitted.

Agawam led at the half, 32-18, on a 12-31 (39 percent) field goal performance and a 4-4 showing from the stripe. Four treys also helped them get the 32 points. Four turnovers with no Eagle conversions insured that AHS was taking care of the rock.

Egg Harbor countered with 8-18 (44 percent) from the field. Two for three from the stripe wouldn't make the nut, either. But what had to really drive them nuts was their 13 turnovers.

Even though the Brownies only converted on two of those mistakes, they made a point — you can't play unless you protect the ball. Egg Harbor, during its half-time skull session, must have realized that running with the Brownies was an exercise in futility. They started the second half in a half-court mode.

It didn't work. Egg Harbor couldn't match up. They put 5'11" widebody Shana Merrill, a sophomore, on Bertone-Gross in the paint. Bertone-Gross, on cruise control, wasn't intimidated. The Brownies backed off on the press, content to let the Eagles fly to them. At 4:18, Patterson went coast-to-coast for a deuce to make it 38-20.

"Plucking" The Eagles...

There were 3:37 left when the Brownies began to pluck the Eagles. Patterson had a blocked shot and converted a 15-foot pop on the turnover. A Cote three put Agawam up, 47-28, at the end of the third.

A nifty, pro-style alley-OOP from Patterson to Cote and a Maloni two-for-two from the line saw the score reach 51-20 at the 6:27 mark. The Agawam man defense did in Egg Harbor. There is not much more to say here. Conte had a three in the fourth. Arguably, Agawam is as good as it can get in Western Massachusetts, although lots of people in Wilbraham will argue that point.

Later, Conte said this: "We knew they were go-

ing to be a lot like Minnechaug, a half-court team, though not as good. We were happy to have them here. It was a test because we were playing an unknown quantity. This experience will help us down the road."

Perhaps the coach was looking ahead to their battles with Minnechaug, the first coming in late January.

BROWNIE STATS:

Patterson — 9 points, 3-10 including a three, 2-4 fts, 2 def rebounds; Maloni — 19 points, 7-23 including a three, 4-8 fts, 2 rebs, 1 off, 1 def; Bertone-Gross — 13 points, 5-11, 3-3 fts, 8 rebounds, 5 off, 3 def; Conte — 11 points, 4-5 including three threes, 1 off rebound; Cote — 7 points, 3-3 including a three, 4 rebs, 3 off, 1 def; Hadden — 2 points, 1-2.

AGAWAM: field goals, 23-59 (38 percent); free throws, 9-16 (56 percent); three pointers, six; turnovers, six; points allowed off turnovers — 0; rebounds, 23, 13 def, 10 off.

EGG HARBOR: field goals, 14-43 (32 percent); free throws, 5-7 (71 percent); three pointers, one; turnovers, 20 points allowed off turnovers, six; rebounds, 13, 8, def, 5 off.

BROWNIE NOTES:

Kristen Patterson was named the MVP of the inaugural Coca-Cola High School Classic. Perhaps she didn't score as much as some of the other kids, but she did what a pure point guard is supposed to do — run the offense.

In Lou Conte's scheme of things, it is an up-tempo, fast-paced affair which requires quick thinking and pinpoint passing. Her seven assists were as important as her nine points. On defense, she had a block which she took coast-to-coast for a bucket. Her quickness and anticipation, which constantly disrupted the opposition's offensive

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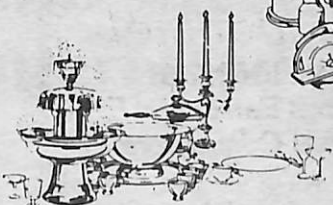
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O'Quinn & Fleming Named As Members Of All WMass Teams

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

Some Agawam High athletes from the Fall Sports Season have been honored for their excellence.

In boys' soccer, Agawam keeper **Bryan O'Quinn** was named to the All-Western Mass soccer team for the second year in a row.

In his two full seasons manning the Brownie nets, he helped lead the team to the Western Mass Division I finals in 1996 and the first round of the tournament in 1997. He appeared in all 19 Agawam games, giving up 19 goals while recording five shutouts.

On occasion when Coach Dwight Northrup needed a little more offensive punch, Bryan would play a field position for part of a game. Because of that, he managed two goals and three assists. He is also an All-New England choice in soccer. Bryan plays basketball for AHS and is a pitcher on the Brownies' baseball team.

Junior fullback **Rich Rodriguez** made the second team. Rich didn't score any points, but he is recognized as one of the best defenders in the area. Rich is one of the reasons why the Brownies gave up only 21 goals in 19 games this season.

Two field hockey players also got noticed for their abilities. **Ali Pratt** and **Stephanie Fleming** were named to the Division I All-League Southern team. Fleming also grabbed a place on the All-Western Mass squad. Steph was also nominated for the All-Academic Field Hockey Team. The senior is in the top 10 percent of her class.

Another honor which came her way was given to her by the Hampden County field hockey officials. They tendered her the "Division I Sportsmanship Award."

Steph had seven goals and 10 assists on the year. Ali recorded seven goals and four assists.

SCRAMBLED EGGS - from Page 36...

flow, were two of the reasons Egg Harbor had 23 turnovers.

A tip of the hat to the folks that put on the event. The tournament organizers, Agawam boys' varsity basketball Coach Gary Grumoli and Wayne Patterson, both from the Chicopee Boys' and Girls' Club, have a good thing in the making. The large crowd of high school hoop enthusiasts who showed up at Springfield College's Blake Arena attested to that.

The Brownies were treated to two nights at the Springfield Sheraton Hotel in an atmosphere that resembled a college tournament.

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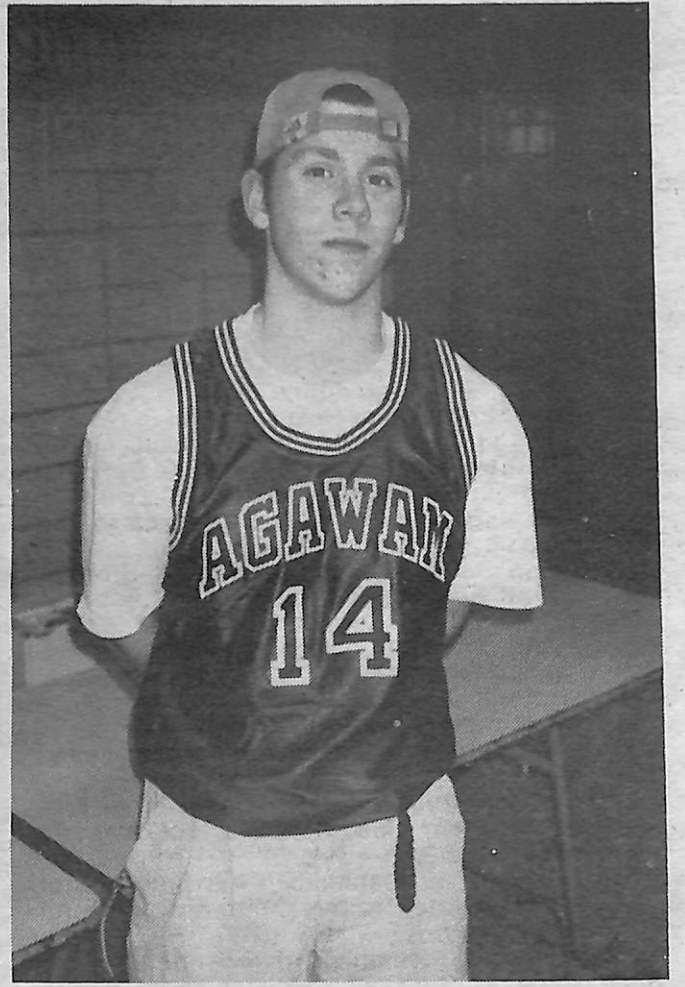


AHS SENIOR STEPHANIE FLEMING was named to the Division I All-Western Mass. field hockey team and also received the "Division I Sportsmanship Award."



AHS SENIOR ALI PRATT was named to the Division I All-League Southern team in field hockey.

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AHS SENIOR BRYAN O'QUINN was named to the Division I All-Western Mass. soccer team as goalie for the second straight year.

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AHS Swimmers Lose To Lancers In Longmeadow

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

The Agawam High girls' and boys' swim team journeyed to Longmeadow High for a meet last Friday. Both teams lost to the powerful Lancers, 122-59 and 127-35, respectively.

The girls started things off in the 200-medley relay. The team of Hillary King, Danielle DeForge, Kelly Robinson, and Missy Sparver finished third in a time of 2:30.53, which was respectable for them considering the competition.

The boys' team of Charlie Roberts, Brendan Kilrain, Matt Francis, and anchor Nate Adamski showed well. Roberts led early in the backstroke. Kilrain had Agawam up by a length on the breaststroke. Francis went out to five lengths on the fly. But the Lancers made up the difference on the gun lap crawl. Adamski brought the Brownies in for a second place finish, losing out by a hand length.

The Lancers finished 1-2-3- in the 200 freestyle. Brownie freshman Lisa Niedziela took a fourth with a time of 2:52.37.

Matt Francis, a freshman in his first year of competition for the Brownies, managed a fourth in the boys' 200 free.

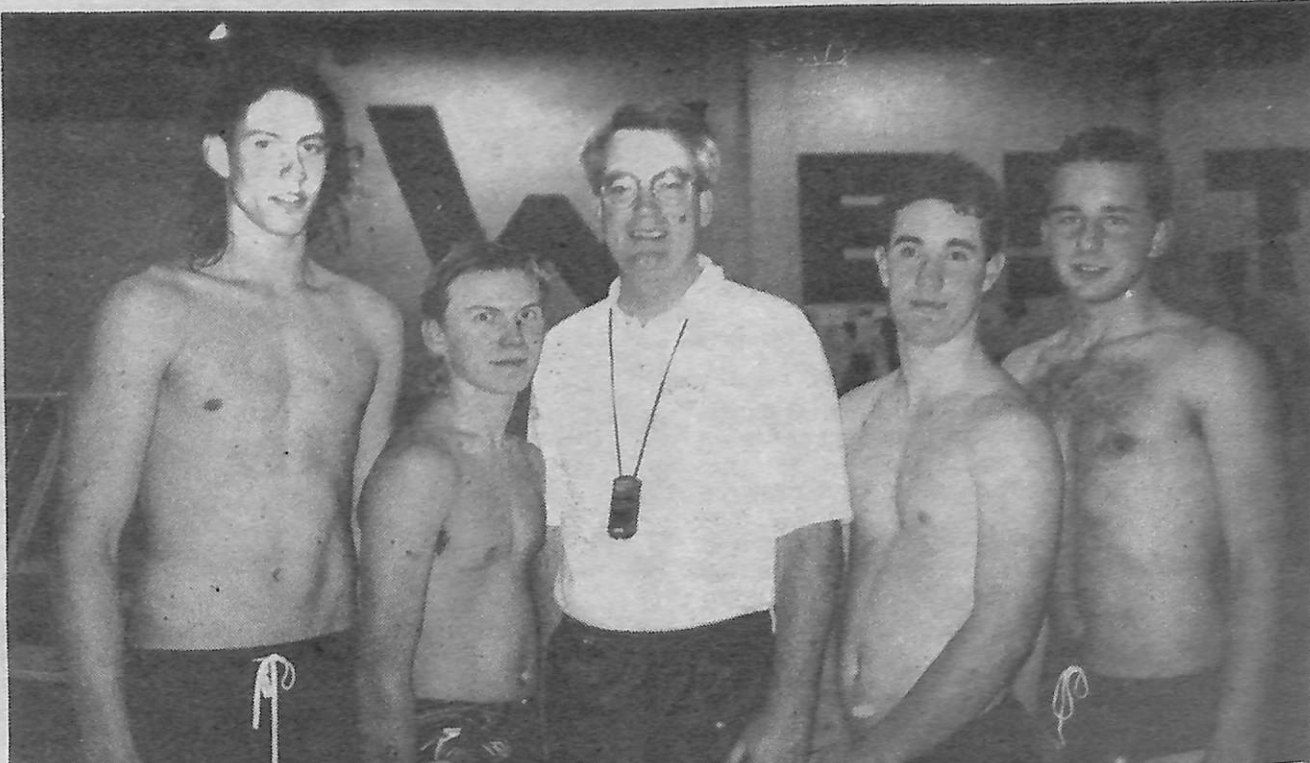
Longmeadow took the two top spots in the girls' 200 IM. But Agawam's Melissa Sparver, who had third place on the back at the midway mark and the crawl down the final 25 meters, managed to hang on and finish in the show spot with a time of 3:25.20.

No Contest In The Boys' 200 IM

It was no contest in the boys' 200 IM. Agawam junior and veteran swimmer Brendan Kilrain, the only Brownie in the field, led from the start. He was ahead by half a pool length at 175 meters and finished that way in a time of 2:13.91.

The girls scored some points in the 50 freestyle, otherwise known as the drag race of swimming. Junior Brenna McGinn, who swam a strong race and was in it until the final few meters, finished a hand length in second, recording a time of :30.94, just over two-tenths of a second slower than the winner (Leah Halsey).

Charlie Roberts, a junior, took second in the boys' 50 meter. He was in a dead heat with the



AHS BOYS' SWIM COACH Chris Johnson (center) with members of the school's 1997-1998 team, from left - Brendan Kilrain, Nate Adamski, Matt Francis, and Charlie Roberts. Advertiser

News photo by Dave Rollins.

Lancers' speedy Mike Russo, who finished at :25.24 (to Roberts' :26.12).

Agawam has no divers, male or female. So, besides the lack of numbers, they had to sit and watched the Lancers pile uncontested points on the board. After the diving, Longmeadow led on the girls' side, 59-16 and 48-18 among the boys.

The 100 fly, always an exciting event, was just that on both sides. Agawam's Shannon Costa was out early and in a dead heat with Longmeadow's fly specialist Katy Spinelli. But Shannon can fly. She kept up until the 75 meter mark. However, Spinelli had the kick. Shannon took second with a 1:13.43.

The boys' fly was an adrenaline rush for everyone on hand, friend and foe alike. Brendan Kilrain was in lane 4, where there is little chop and a good opportunity not only for a win, but a good clocking. Kilrain was first by a hand at 25 meters, in the same position at 50 meters, and still slightly up at 75. In the last 25, he held off a big charge by his Lancer opponent, winning it by a flash. His

time of 1:01.25 was a personal best for him in that event.

Agawam's Kelly Robinson, who was fourth at the 50 meter mark of the girls' 100 free, put on a big kick and just did finish third with a time of 1:11.65.

Charlie Roberts, who was second for the entire length of the boys' 100 freestyle, finished that way in 1:32.

Most Grueling Of All Events

The most grueling of all events is the 500 meter free. It's 20 lengths of the pool. Conditioning, stamina, and guts are required to swim it, no matter where you finish. On the girls' side, Shaunessy Egan showed those qualities. She was in third after 100 meters. At the 250 meter mark (halfway), she was still locked up in third and swimming comfortably. Meanwhile, the leader, Longmeadow's Katie Hennessey, was starting to lap the field. Egan was a quarter pool length behind the leader, but closing on second, which

SEE SWIMMING - Page 39...



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SWIMMING - from Page 38...

she took on the 13th lap from the Lancer's Faiza Manzoor. Shaunessy finished in 6:20.16, 13 seconds behind Hennessey, and six-tenths of a second ahead of Manzoor.

The Brownie boys, without the horsepower, had no entrants in the 500. Boys' Coach Chris Johnson put it best. "We're showing well. We're just outnumbered," he smiled.

The Brownie girls knew they couldn't win the meet but showed no quit. Lauren Kunkle, Sparver, Robinson, and Rebecca Morytko took a second place in the 200 relay.

Roberts, Francis, Adamski, and Kilrain finished second in the boys' 200 relay. At that point, they trailed 91-33. The girls were down 112-45.

Brenna McGinn took a third in the 100 backstroke after starting out first at the 25 meter mark, then falling to second halfway through before settling in for her third place finish.

Nate Adamski just lost out to Longmeadow's John Lovett by a finger in the boys' 100 back, finishing second, five-tenths of a second behind the winning time of 1:14.68.

Sophomore Shannon Costa was second in the girls' 100 breast. The Agawam boys had no swimmers in the event.

The Agawam girls got their only first place finish in the final event of the day, the 400 meter relay. Egan, McGinn, Rachel Morris, and Costa made up the team. Egan had a two length lead after 100 meters. McGinn, her goggles falling off, had the team in second after her 100 meter stint. The Brownies were still swimming in second after Morris did her 100.

On the gun laps, Costa pulled out all the stops, bringing her team up from second to win it by half a length in a time of 4:28.09.

The boys did not enter the event.

Both Brownie swim teams go to 0-2 on the young season. Longmeadow is 2-0.

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AHS Boys' Ski Team Preparing To Tackle Division I Slopes

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

For some time now the Agawam High boys' ski team has been working out on the gentle "slopes" of the Curran-Jones Funeral Home parking lot, which is just across the street from the High School. Though it doesn't exactly come close to the big hills topped with snow (rather than asphalt), it gave Coach Glenn Olson a chance to evaluate a big turnout for this year's club. "I had to make some cuts. It's never easy doing that," he admitted. Finally he settled on 14 kids who he feels can help his team.

Last year, behind All-Western Mass. standout Ryan Progulske, his team finished third in the A Division. They had been promoted after their first place finish the year before in the Western Mass. B Division.

Though he has many newcomers, there will be some kids who, because of their experience and contributions to the program, will get a lot of hill time.

Progulske and Steve Charest, both seniors, are foremost among them. Both of them were qualifiers for the State Meet last season. They, along with another senior, Mike Savioli, are the captains this year.

Progulske Will Be At Number One

The coach pretty much has his top six picked out for now. Progulske will be at number one. "He is relentless. He's the type of skier who just keeps on charging. For him, second place isn't good enough," the coach says of his 6'3", 185-pound star. Then he added, "Sometimes, Ryan will get frustrated because he knows exactly what he has to do to win. And sometimes things don't quite come together. But we talk and get through it."

Charest, while not as big as Progulske, is solid and muscular. He'll ski out of the number two spot. "Steve is quiet. He tends to let his actions speak for him. And he feeds off Ryan and his performances. He wants to do as well or better. That's a healthy attitude to have," Olson said.

The coach is still looking at his three and six

slots. For now, he sees it this way. Savioli, who he feels has struggled in the past, is coming into his senior year and will make a statement. "This is Steve's last shot. I think he'll be totally focused. He'll be in the three hole.

Mike DeFilipi, a junior, will be at number four. He's a big kid who must concentrate on his technique. "Mike skis well because he does it with his heart. He is very motivated. That makes up for some of the mistakes he makes in the mechanics of his skiing," Olson noted.

Junior Rob Santaniello is a returnee from last year as well. "Rob is strong, very balanced on his skis, and is very athletic. He is also a very sound technical skier," Olson smiled. "He'll help us at the five spot."

Another junior, Jason Flood, is penciled into the sixth position out of the gate. Last season was his first with the varsity. "Jay is another quiet kid. He studies things and learns very fast. He'll be a good anchor for us," Olson observed.

Two Sophomores Named To The Team

Two sophomores made the team, Steve Hearn and Jack Peterson. They'll be joined by five freshmen: Bill Campana, Sean DeVall, Brandon Donovan, Adam Escobar, and Kacy Progulske, who is the brother of Ryan. Also making the team was senior exchange student Simon Tyrberg from Sweden).

Will any of these kids be able to crack the top six? The coach might get a handle on that this week. The day after Christmas, the team heads up to Smuggler's Notch for five days of training mixed in with some fun.

"We'll see how they do up there. Who knows? Everyone will certainly get to strut their stuff at a place like that," Olson smiled, obviously excited with his new team and their prospects for the upcoming season.

Things open up for them on Tuesday, January 6th, at the Berkshire East Ski Area.

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Brownie Hoop Bounces Back With Solid Victory Over Ludlow, 79-54

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

Last Friday night, the Agawam boys' basketball team notched its first win of the season by doing everything right.

Their 79-54 drubbing of Ludlow High was in stark contrast to their lopsided 58-30 loss three days earlier to Westfield. This time the Brownies would not play the role of pushover. AHS committed only 10 turnovers. A 31-50 (62 percent) evening from the field helped even more.

Also figuring in was their total domination of the boards (20 defensive and 14 offensive, compared to Ludlow's five and nine, respectively). Also, power forward Brian Gallagher (4 pts., 2-3 fgs, 3 rebounds) was back to add some good blackout muscle under the glass.

A Track Meet From The Get-Go

This was was a track meet from the get-go, with both teams employing a full court press. The Lions, though a bit smaller than Agawam, seemed a half-step slower. Also, the Brownies were switching from a 2-3 to a man defense which seemed to put Ludlow off its stride. The Lions didn't score their first field goal, a three pointed, until 3:20 had fled from the clock. At 11:19, Agawam was up, 10-6.

The play was rough, mostly because of the many fast breaks and the defensive efforts to shut them down. Senior Bryan O'Quinn (14 points, 5-6 fg, 4-6 ft, 1 rebound) practicing tough 'D' as usual, took a tooth to the side of his head at the 7:47 mark, producing a gusher that would require at least one stitch. Agawam trainer Dave Stratton did a nifty job of shutting off the blood flow and patching up the wound.

With 7:20 to go, the Brownies, feeling their oats, were up 24-13. Agawam was shooting 9-16 from the floor. Ludlow had managed five field goals on 19 attempts. O'Quinn came back in with 3:37 left. The Brownies, leading 28-17 at that point, then went on a 12-point blitz.

Senior guard Jay Hanscom (16, 7-11 fgs, 2-4 ft, 1 rebound), drove for two. Forward Marc Pedraza (8 points, 4-7 fgs, 0-1 ft, 10 rebounds) missed his shot, got his own rebound, and laid it in. O'Quinn hit a deuce from the stripe. Pedraza drained a

jumper at the buzzer. Agawam took a 40-12 halftime lead.

Two things in the first 16 minutes must have seemed like early Christmas gifts for Brownie Coach Gary Grumoli. First, his club went 16-26 (61 percent) from the field. And they committed only five turnovers. Ludlow was only able to convert on one of them. "We were alive and enthusiastic in this one," the coach said afterwards.

With the good fortune fresh in their minds, the pumped up Brownies were ready for second-half battle. They came out pressing. Ludlow, much as it did in the first half, stayed in a man-man defense. That gave the taller Brownies a chance to go to the hole. Early on, Matt Albano (8 points, 1-3 fts, 6-7 fts, 6 rebounds) took advantage, using his aggressive style of play to bag four quick second-half points off two offensive boards with one minute gone.

At 13:29, Agawam saw its lead balloon to 48-28. Much of the lead had to do with Albano, Hanscom, and Shawn Anderson (4 pts, 2-2 fgs, 0-1 fts, 3 rebounds). They cranked up the press another notch with pressure that slowly wore down the Lion offense.

Hanscom had perhaps the prettiest offensive move of the evening with four minutes gone. From 20 feet out, he drove the right side of the lane. The Lions' defenders were about to double him up when he faked a pass to Eric Melbourne on the right wing. Ludlow bought it, laid off, and Hanscom, unopposed, gently laid in the rock. After Albano hit two from the line, Melbourne (6 pts, 3-5 fgs, 0-4 fts, 4 rebounds) using the athletic skills of a wide receiver (which he was in football), drove down Broadway to put Agawam up 54-30.

The Brownies were starting to put on a show. Melbourne stole the ball and went coast-to-coast for the layup. Pedraza drove and spun in a reverse layup with eight minutes left to make it 58-34.

Surprisingly enough, with 7:40 to go, Agawam had gone 9-13 from the field, but Ludlow was 8-16. They shot well (22-44, 53 percent) overall but had few chances from the line in the second half, to

that point, as opposed to Agawam's eight charity points. Finally, at 7:10, they got one. But it was only a finger in the dam.

With 4:40 to go, Gallagher got his first two points of the season to make it 68-47. It was only a matter of time after that. The 79-54 win evened up Agawam's season at 1-1. Ludlow dropped to 0-2. It was a non-conference game for both clubs.

O'Quinn, sporting the gash over his right ear, noted later that there was one big difference between their first two games. "We played with more emotion tonight. And we were at home. That always helps," he said.

Grumoli felt everyone contributed to the up-tempo game. "We like to play everybody, if we can," he said.

BROWNIE STAT: O'Quinn - 14 points, 5-6, 4-6 fts, 1 defensive rebound; Hanscom - 16 points, 7-11, 2-4 fgs, 1 offensive rebound; Pedraza - 8 points, 4-7, 0-1 fts, 10 rebounds [6 defensive, 4 offensive]; Albano - 8 points, 1-3, 6-7 fts, 6 rebounds [2 defensive, 4 offensive]; Strole - 4 points, 1-4, 2-2 fts, 5 rebounds [2 defensive, 3 offensive]; Federico - 7 points, 2-5 inc. 1-3, 2-2 fts, 2 rebounds [1 defensive, 1 offensive]; White - 0 points, 0-1; Melbourne - 6 points, 3-5, 0-4 fts, 4 def. rebounds; Anderson - 4 points, 2-2, 0-1 fts, 3 def. rebounds; Lyman - 8 points, 4-5; Gallagher - 4 points, 2-3, 3 offensive rebs.

AGAWAM - 31-50 fgs (62 percent), 16-26 fts (61 percent), 1 3-pt; 11 two's; 1 pt off turnovers.

LUDLOW - 22-44 fgs (50 percent), 5-10 fts (50 percent), 5 3 pt; 13 two's, 8 pts off two's.

BROWNIE JV AND FRESHMAN NOTES: The Agawam junior varsity beat the Ludlow JV's Friday night, 53-33. High scorers for Agawam, Brian St. Jean, with 20 [including a pair of 3's]; Joe Divirgilio had 9 points [including two 3's]. Their record stands at 1-1.

The Brownie freshmen have played two games. They lost their opener, 52-47, at Westfield. A.J. Martucci had 23 points in that one. They beat Ludlow Friday night, 51-25, after a 30-10 halftime lead. Josh Ducharme totaled 12. Martucci had 8.

PLEASE REMEMBER our next deadline is **Tuesday, January 6th at noontime.** The office will be open during the weekdays between Christmas and New Year's but our staff will be in and out during the day.

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Agawam Piranhas Face Longmeadow

The Agawam Piranhas swim team lost against the Longmeadow team by a score of 464-413 on December 5, 1997 at the Agawam Junior High School. The results included:

Girls 8 & under:

Caitlin Hurley, third in 100-yard individual medley; Taryn Dooley, second in 25-yard freestyle; Julie Gorman, first in 25-yard butterfly and first in 50-yard freestyle; Taryn Dooley, first in 25-yard backstroke; Caitlin Hurley, second in 25-yard breaststroke.

Boys 8 & under:

The team of Zachary Demers, Adam Deliefde, Shaun Bruso, and Anthony Lee placed first in the 100-yard medley relay.

Shaun Bruso, first in 100-yard individual medley.

The team of Daniel Demers, Zachary Demers, Adam Deliefde, and Andrew Ardolino placed first in the 100-yard freestyle relay.

Daniel Demers, first in 25-yard freestyle; Shaun Bruso, first in 25-yard butterfly; Anthony Lee, first, Zachary Demers, second, and Daniel Demers, third in 50-yard freestyle; Anthony Lee, first, and Andrew Ardolino, second in 25-yard backstroke; Adam Deliefde, first, and Andrew Ardolino, second in 25-yard breaststroke.

Girls 9-10:

Tammy Gorman, second in 100-yard individual medley.

The team of Jessica Lalli, Gabrielle Brown, Tammy Gorman, and Johannah Kos placed second in the 200-yard freestyle relay.

Kaitlin Bond, first, and Lindsay Brennan, third in 50-yard freestyle; Johannah Kos, first, and Kaitlin Bond, third in 50-yard butterfly; Johannah Kos, first, and Jessica Lalli, second in 100-yard freestyle; Tammy Gorman, second, and Danielle Poggi, third in 50-yard backstroke; Jessica Lalli, first in 50-yard breaststroke.

Boys 9-10:

The team of Erik Deliefde, Alan Gallerani, Connor Dooley, and William Barker III placed second in the 200-yard medley relay.

Erik Deliefde, first, and Anthony Ardolino, third in 100-yard individual medley.

The team of Anthony Ardolino, Matthew Styckiewicz, Erik Deliefde, and Jeffrey Lagasse placed first in the 200-yard freestyle relay.

Matthew Styckiewicz, second, and William Barker III, third in 50-yard freestyle; Jeffrey Lagasse, first, and Alan Gallerani, third in 50-yard butterfly; Jeffrey Lagasse, first, and Matthew

Styckiewicz, third in 100-yard freestyle; Erik Deliefde, first, and Connor Dooley, third in 50-yard backstroke; Anthony Ardolino, first, and Alan Gallerani, second in 50-yard breaststroke.

Girls 11-12:

The team of Brittany Theriaque, Lindsay Carey, Jillian Kos, and Katie Gorman placed first in the 200-yard medley relay.

Jillian Kos, first in 200-yard individual medley; Brittany Theriaque, third in 200-yard freestyle; Jillian Kos, second, and Angela Vinton, third in 50-yard freestyle; Jillian Kos, first, and Lindsay Carey, third in 50-yard butterfly; Katie Gorman, third in 100-yard freestyle; Allison Morris, third in 50-yard backstroke; Lindsay Carey, second, and Allison Morris, third in 50-yard breaststroke.

The team of Allison Morris, Angela Vinton, Erin Milillo, and Abriana Spagnoli placed third in the 200-yard freestyle relay.

Boys 11-12:

The team of Kyle Henry, David Torrey, Phillip Prouty, and Michael Lalli placed second in the 200-yard medley relay.

Daniel Adamski, second, and Michael Lalli, third in 200-yard freestyle; Paul Lagasse, second, and Phillip Prouty, third in 50-yard freestyle; Paul Lagasse, second in 50-yard butterfly; Kyle Sullivan, second, and Thomas Gorman, third in 100-yard freestyle; Daniel Adamski, first, and Michael Lalli, third in 50-yard backstroke; Thomas Gorman, first, and David Torrey, second in 50-yard breaststroke.

The team of Paul Lagasse, Thomas Gorman, Kyle Sullivan, and Daniel Adamski placed second in the 200-yard freestyle relay.

Girls 13-14:

The team of Kimberly Chmura, Amanda Boissonneault, Hilary Golas, and Daveen Macsata placed first in the 200-yard medley relay.

Hilary Golas, first, and Kimberly Chmura, third in 200-yard freestyle; Daveen Macsata, first, and Kristine Archambault, third in 50-yard freestyle; Hilary Golas, first, and Kimberly Chmura, third in 100-yard butterfly; Kristine Archambault, third in 100-yard freestyle; Amanda Boissonneault, first in 100-yard backstroke; Amanda Boissonneault, second, and Renee Couture, third in 100-yard breaststroke.

Boys 13-14:

Michael Follis, third in 50-yard freestyle; Jason St. George, third in 100-yard freestyle; Michael Follis, second in 100-yard breaststroke.

AHS Matmen Just Miss Taking Title At Big Tourney

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

When you are good, you go and find folks as good as you. That is the philosophy of the Agawam High School wrestling team.

Last Saturday, they traveled to Central Mass and the Milford Invitational Tournament. There, they went up against powerhouse teams from Natick, Brockton, North Attleboro, and Quabbin (plus a host of others). Agawam finished second in the stellar field with 168 points. Natick was first with 172½. It was that close.

Dave Moore, Agawam's rising star, went in the 103's. He was on the verge of a win when his opponent from Keefe Tech got him in a headlock. It was a hold Moore could have escaped from. He tried, but it didn't happen. "It was an excellent match. We could have had a win in that one," Agawam Coach Phil Tomkiel said. Instead, it was an Agawam 10-9 loss at the buzzer.

Kevin Suffriti took a third in the 112's. It was a disappointing match. "Keven was leading 12-2 when things went wrong. He made a mistake at the end of the second period and got a little sloppy," Tomkiel noted. That mistake led to Suffriti getting pinned.

Agawam rules the 119-pound weight class. Two-time All-Western Mass standout **Kevin McKay** wrestles there. He pinned his way through the tournament and won his final match on a decision. The kid he beat hails from North Attleboro and was the champion last season in that weight class. The coach smiled when asked about his captain: "Pound for pound, he is just the best wrestler you're ever going to see."

Sophomore **Brian Chechile** had a tough time in the 125's. "That is a brutal class to be in, especially at the Milford Tournament," Tomkiel admitted. He lost his final match by a decision and didn't place.

Chris Wayte came in second in the 130's. "We were super pleased with him. He opened his competition with a pin and went all the way to the finals, where he ended up getting pinned," Tomkiel said.

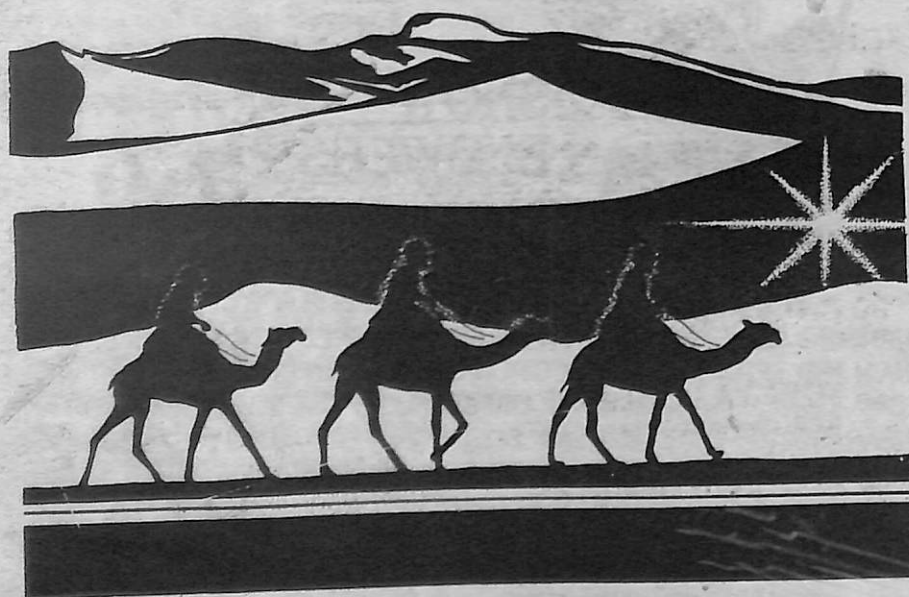
Tough **Ryan Grealis** took a third in the 135's. The junior lost to a Brockton wrestler who eventually became the tournament champion in that weight class.

Senior **Kevin Hill** had a good tournament. He pinned his first two opponents in the 140's. He got pinned in the championship match and finished second in that weight class.

SEE MATMEN - Page 42...

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Norman Townsend

MATMEN - from Page 41...

Mark Engleman came in fourth in the 145's. It was the junior's first tournament. He won his first match on a pin before losing in his third match of the day. "He was another kid who wrestled really well for us," the coach smiled.

A Pleasant Surprise For The Brownies...

The Brownies got a pleasant surprise in the 152's. There, junior Adam Blair came in second. "Adam was another kid with no tournament experience. He won his first match on a pin, took his second on a decision, but lost in the championship by getting pinned. He did very well, considering the circumstances," Tomkiel noted.

Senior Lee Kunkler took a third in the 160-pound weight class. "Lee is at his best when he can dominate an opponent. He couldn't really do it in this tournament," the coach said of his 160-pounder.

In the long history of Agawam wrestling under Tomkiel, the upper weight classes have always been the trademark of the program. The 171-pound class was once the domain of guys like Andrew Ingham, Mike DaSilva, Nick Langone, and Tom King.

This time around, the 171's saw junior John Weinkle take a fourth. "We weren't disappointed with him. This was his first tournament experience. He will get better, no doubt about it," the coach said.

The 189-pound weight class, also a benchmark for Agawam wrestling (who can ever forget the great three-time All-Western Mass and State Champion, Jon Jacobsen, or three-time All-Western Mass Champ, Nick Langone?), saw a bit of disappointment. Junior Justin Petrangelo was seeded first. He was the only Agawam wrestler who had experience in the 189's from last year's Tournament.

He won his first match on a pin. After that, he finished out of the running. "Yes, we weren't happy with his performance," Tomkiel admitted.

The 215-weight class is occupied by All-Western Mass Champ, Darrell Malachowski. The big senior redhead, who was also a runner-up in last year's State Championship, won his first two matches on pins. He won the championship round with an overtime decision over tough, All-Central Mass wrestler Mike O'Neil from Milford.

The heavyweights saw a good performance by Asbel Nunez. The junior has lots to learn, but there is no quit in him. He had a pin in his first



AHS WRESTLING STAR Kevin McKay works out with his hair apparent, Dave Moore. Advertiser News photo by Dave Rollins.

match of the tournament. Though he didn't place, he showed great courage.

"We need tournaments like the Milford Invitational. That level of competition gets us out of the good competition in Western Mass and into battles with regional powers. Our success in situations like that tells us how good we are because we'll probably be meeting a lot of those teams in the States," Tomkiel stated.

On a scale of 1-10, the coach rated his team's performance at an 8. "We still need some work," he noted.



Outdoors New England

by Kent Servis
Outdoor Writer

An "In-Between" Time For Many Sportsmen...

Now that the black powder season has come to a close, and many area ponds are skimmed over with a sheen of ice, we have arrived at the "in-between" time for many sportsmen.

With the Christmas season upon us and the prospects for a new year at hand, let's take a few moments to savor the feelings of the holiday season.

Nature has given us all an almost unlimited bounty of splendor and resources for us to enjoy in our outdoor pursuits. Our families have been understanding during the times that we have neglected the lawn and other household chores, while we were gone on hunting and fishing trips.

In the true spirit of Christmas, let us not forget what the celebration is really about. Our tradition of gift-giving dates back to the first Christmas, when the Three Wise Men traveled a great distance to bring gifts to the newborn King.

Today, we often get so caught up in the commercialization of the holiday, that we get absorbed in such truly meaningless exercises of making sure that we lavish our family and friends with material gifts that only reflect the purchasing power of our incomes or credit limit.

Let those of us who know the wonders of the forest and the solitude of a trout stream, share the greatest gift of all. Your time and your caring.

Today's youth have not been exposed to the outdoors the way that we were. Remember back to your own youth. If your dad was an outdoorsman, you learned from him. If not, then it was probably some kindly neighbor, uncle, or some other "old-timer" who took you under his wing.

This year, think of giving one of the most appreciated gifts that can last for generations. Give of yourself. Give some youngster the gift of your experience in the outdoors. Share your knowledge and your time. A little goes a long way!

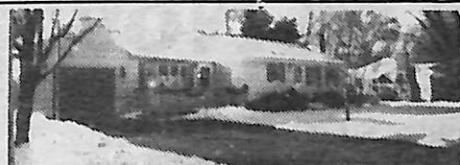
Spend an afternoon or evening with some of our older citizens who may be confined to nursing homes or otherwise too infirm to get out. Swap fish stories or reminisce about the good old days. You will have given a gift far more valuable than any material token we might have given.

Have a safe and enjoyable holiday season, and usher in a kinder and more loving new year.

PLEASE REMEMBER our next deadline is Tuesday, January 6th at noontime. The office will be open during the weekdays between Christmas and New Year's but our staff will be in and out during the day. You are welcome to drop off your items or call us at 786-7747 and leave a message. Thank-you very much.

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AT THE FIRST ANNUAL Agawam High School Cheerleader Scholarship Golf Tournament: in top photo, the winning team for the men's division - Jack Twaddle, Jack Ross, Ken Forni, and Kevin Ross; in photo below, the winners for the mixed division - Joe Lancour, Jim Lancour, Steve Castelli, and Gene Mutti.



Municipal Golf Course Hosts First AHS Cheerleader Tourney

The first annual Agawam High School Cheerleader Scholarship Golf Tournament was held recently at the Agawam Municipal Golf Course.

The Agawam High School cheerleaders would like to extend a sincere thank you to the many sponsors, golfers, and the Booster Club members who made this event such a great success.

A very special thanks to Dave DeLuca, Bob Rendrick, Sandi Forni, and Tom Dickinson, who chaired the entire event.

Besides having such beautiful weather, the golfers competed for several prizes, and with a scramble format, fun was had by all. The winning team for the men's division was Ken Forni of Agawam, Jack Twaddle of West Springfield, Jack Ross, and Kevin Ross, who came in 12 under par. Prizes were also awarded for the men's division to Mike Murphy of Agawam for closest to the line and closest to the pin. Jack Ross won the longest drive contest.

Winning first place for the mixed division was Jim Lancour, Steve Castelli, Joe Lancour, and Gene Mutti, all of Agawam. Lisa Forni of Springfield won the longest drive and closest to the pin contest, and Mel Crosby of West Springfield won first prize in the closest to the line contest.

Congratulations to all. See you next year!!!

Spfld. Falcons Announce Third Annual Agawam Night

The Springfield Falcons are pleased to announce that the third Annual Agawam Night, sponsored by the Agawam Recreation Department, has been scheduled for Friday, January 16, 1998, as the Falcons host the Saint John Flames at 7:30 p.m. at the Civic Center.

Group tickets for Agawam Night are available at the Agawam Recreation Department, weekdays from 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. beginning January 5, 1998. Groups rates are adult/seniors, \$8.50; youths 18 and under, \$6.00.

All ticket purchases must be made by Thursday, January 15th. Don't forget, this is Friendly's Cones for Kids Night and that your ticket stub is worth free parking at the Civic Center Garage.

As an added attraction, on Tuesday, January 6th, from 6:30-7:30 p.m., some of the "Falcons" along with "Screech" will be at the Agawam Middle School for an autograph and picture-taking session. Tickets may also be purchased at this time.

For more information, please call the Recreation Office at 821-0514.

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FORMER AGAWAM HIGH BASKETBALL STAR
Cindy Fontanilles is showing great form as a junior forward at AIC.

Cindy Fontanilles Playing Strong For AIC Women's Hoop

Former Agawam High School girls' basketball star Cindy Fontanilles scored a career high 21 point in a loss to nationally-ranked Stonehill and chipped in 19 points in a victory over Le Moyne for the American International College Lady Yellow Jackets. In both games, Fontanilles led AIC in scoring in the Division II action.

For her efforts, Fontanilles was later named to the weekly ECAC Honor Roll while also picking up her second Northeast 10 Conference weekly Honor Roll selection.

The 6'2" junior, who majors in psychology, is a former All-Western Mass. performer for Coach Lou Conte's Agawam High Brownies and was named the 1994 Division I "Player of the Year." Fontanilles, who transferred to AIC as a sophomore, "had some great games last year and now that she has a year of experience at AIC, we need her to be a leader and show-off her potential," said Coach Peter Cinella.

Bay West Panthers Continue Strong Hockey Play In Early Season Action

On Saturday, December 13th, the Bay West Panthers (Division B Squirt) visited Holy Name at Cyr Arena. The game started with Adam Corbin scoring the first goal to give Bay West a 1-0 lead with an assist going to Matt Footit.

Holy Name came back to tie the score at 1-1 in the second period. However, the Panthers jumped back on top as Anthony Santinello found the back of the net to make the score 2-1, Bay West. The goal was assisted by Mike O'Neil.

The third period started with Holy Name again tying the score and then quickly taking the lead on another goal to give them a 3-2 lead, giving the Panthers their first defeat of the season. Tony Boido played an outstanding game in goal to keep the score as close as it was.

On Sunday, December 14th, the Panthers had another road game, this time against Ludlow at Blunt Park Arena.

The play in the first period was mostly in the Ludlow end of the ice, but the Ludlow goaltender made some excellent saves on shots from Mike Brouillette, Jon Wagner, and Ryan Harlow to keep the game scoreless.

But with 40 seconds left in the period, Ludlow scored on a deflection to give a 1-0 lead. In the second period, Alex Demers displayed a lot of hard work in keeping the puck in the Ludlow zone, and when Ludlow got the puck in the Bay West zone, Tony Boido made the excellent saves.

Bay West almost tied the score as Jon Wagner took a hard shot that clanged off the post. The Panther offense kicked in when the third period began as Adam Corbin scored to tie the game at 1-1, the assists going to Jon Wagner and Alex Demers.

Ludlow didn't give up as they took an excellent shot on goal but Tony Boido stoned them with a great glove save. Bay West then went ahead to stay as Anthony Santinello scored to give the Panthers a 2-1 lead.

Assisting on the goal were Alex Demers and Joey Zmuda. Adam Corbin then followed with his second goal of the game (assisted by Anthony Santinello and Dave Suchy) to extend the lead to 3-1.

Ludlow came back to score with four minutes left in the game to make it interesting but the Panthers held on for the 3-2 win.

Ed Gaiser, along with Matt Woodward, played outstanding defensive games along with the untiring play of Mike O'Neil and Mike Brouillette in the offensive end of the ice. Coach Steve Brouillette was extremely pleased with the team's heads-up play, persistence and passing.

The Panthers now have a 3-1-1 record and continue their road show in Greenfield on Thursday, December 18th and then play at home on Saturday, December 20th against Amherst and on Sunday, travel to Enfield to take on WTM.

PLEASE REMEMBER our next deadline is Tuesday, January 6th at noontime. The office will be open during the weekdays between Christmas and New Year's but our staff will be in and out during the day. You are welcome to drop off your items or call us at 786-7747 and leave a message. Thank-you very much.

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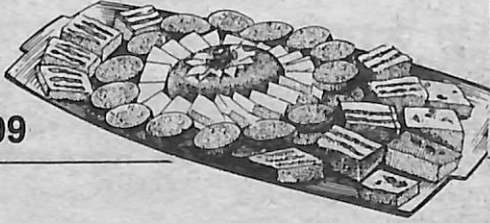
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